

History Shows the Way Forward

Dr. Bob Hough is a beef industry professional and historian with strong ties to the Simmental breed. Page 12

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THE Tips and Timelines

Sequencing Simmental Bulls and Multi-breed Heifer Pregnancy

Much More Than a Simple Carcass Test

Performance Data Collection Guide

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EPD	+18.0	-1.9	+95.0	+146.0	+.32	+13.0	+33.0	+80.7	+19.3	+12.9	+55.0	-0.28	+.73	015	+1.33	37	+191	+109
ACC		.52				.33	.28	.35		.37		.42		.45	.53	.09	7191	+109
%	1	5	4	4	10	1	3	1	25	30	2	111097	1			35	1	2
																EPDs as of	10/20/202	1 TOP 35%

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TRAIT	CE	BW	WW	YW	ADG	MCE	MILK	MWW	STAY	DOC	CW	YG	MARB	BF	REA	SHR	\$API	\$TI
EPD	+18.0	-2.7	+86.0	+134.0	+.30	+10.0	+32.0	+75.2	+20.0	+15.7	+32.0	-0.28	+.43	043	+.83	48	±174	+97
	.65	.80											.43		.56		T174	TOZ

EPDs as of 10/20/2021 TOP 35%



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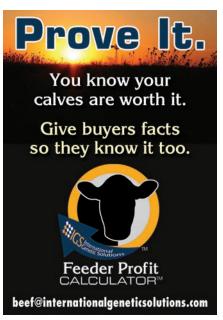


















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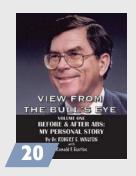


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Currently on special!





Reg#: 3253742 | 3/4 Simmental 1/4 Angus Hook's Black Hawk 50B x GW-WBF Substance 820Y

CED	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	MM	MWW	STAY	DOC	CW	YG	MB	BF	REA	SHR	API	TI
13.8	-1.7	100.7	162.8	0.39	7.9	24.5	74.8	18.7	20.4	48.6	-0.30	0.58	-0.041	1.14	-0.53	170.7	103.6
.80	.92	.89	.89	.89	.58	.39	.49	.41	.62	.74	.51	.63	.48	.69	.21		
30%	15%	1%	1%	1%	30%	35%	3%	15%	1%	10%	25%	10%		2%	1%	3%	1%

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CED	BW	ww	YW	ADG	MCE	MM	MWW	STAY	DOC	cw	YG	МВ	BF	REA	SHR	API	TI
14.3	-0.9	99.6	152.3	0.33	11.4	30.8	80.5	16.5	16.6	51.9	-0.39	0.58	-0.040	1.44	-0.37	173.8	106.8
.74	.89	.86	.84	.84	.40	.34	.46	.36	.53	.65	.48	.64	.53	.58	.09		
10%	10%	2%	2%	4%	1%	10%	1%		4%	3%		1%		1%	30%	1%	1%

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- **♦** ASA Spotlight
- ♦ EPD FAOs
- ♦ Women of ASA
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Fall work is wrapping up for producers across the country as we head into winter. Photo by Heather Maude, Caputa, South Dakota.

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A very special Thank you to last years buyers of our top selling Lots: Tim Ohlde, Paul Klingeman and Tyler Lang Thank you to our Canadian buyers Beechinor Brothers, Virginia Ranch and Van De Velde Cattle (MB Producer of the year)











Britches last years top selling lot to; Tim Ohlde, Her daughter Franceen Sells!

FROM THE HEADQUARTERS



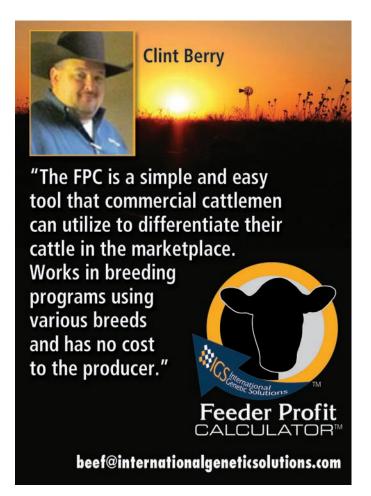
by Chip Kemp, director, ASA & IGS Commercial and Industry Operations

I have a confession to make: Outside of occasionally watching shows from my youth, beef industry productions, or my alma mater finding new and creative ways to frustrate me on the field or court, I

have little use for modern television programming.

As a result, I find my news, information, entertainment, and mental engagement elsewhere. Podcasts are one of those platforms. Mike Schmitz has a couple very popular and edifying podcasts worth listening to. In a recent episode he made a very profound and thought-provoking assertion: that **one's sphere of interest can often outstrip their impactable circle of influence**. His contention, my contention is that we get excited about a whole bunch of things we can do nothing about. We emote. We move on. Done.

Did we do anything to improve the situation? Did we extend a helping hand? Or did we just pat ourselves on the head while saying, "Nice job, Self. You are one of the caring people."



The point? We have limited time and opportunities to make an impact. Let's get to it.

ASA's sphere of influence is clear: To provide tools that accentuate the positive profit positions of our clients, and tools that help identify and eliminate drags on operational success. This is **THE MISSION** of a relevant breed association. This is where our influence is best used and where the bulk of our energy needs to be directed. ASA is most successful in showing it actually cares by providing you and your customers tangible genetic help to navigate a tough business.

So, how to make this real?

At this moment, many of us are determining which bulls are in and which are out of the next sale. How will we format the sale catalog? What data makes it in? Will we embellish footnotes a bit? Will we be clearer and more educational in our comments? Of course, you and I ponder EPD and indexes and contemporary groups and mating decisions and percentile ranks all year long. Our customers do not. They spend mere moments tuned into genetic decision-making. They'd argue they don't need to. That is your job.

So how to help? By guiding them toward measurables they can rely on. Encourage them to pass over the actual birth weight in favor of the calving ease EPD. Or, better yet, maybe you decide to eliminate the actual birth weight from the sale catalog altogether. Inform them that the Stayability EPD can affect their heifer retention decisions far more than obsession about a single female three generations back in the pedigree. Maybe we put a greater consideration on their cow herd makeup and the maintenance of valuable heterosis when we are guiding them toward which bull seems most appropriate for them. Or maybe a whole host of things.

Or maybe we decide to take the plunge into the mass data collection programs we've heard about from ASA. We've talked about the Cow Herd DNA Roundup program around the kitchen table. We've flirted with the idea of the Calf Crop Genomics project. Yes, it requires money, but prior to the next new side-by-side or the saddle upgrade, maybe these are the financial investments we should explore.

If you have delayed investigating these programs, it is time. ■



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COW SENSE

Listed below are ten questions designed to test your knowledge of the beef industry.

Elite: 9–10 correct
Superior: 7–8 correct
Excellent: 5–6 correct
Fair: 3–4 correct
Poor: 1–2 correct

- 1. In two words, how would you describe a cow with a body condition of 9?
- 2. What is the term that identifies the maturation period sperm cells must undergo before they are capable of fertilizing an egg?
- 3. What is the earliest date that an experienced palpator might be able to detect pregnancy?
- 4. How would you describe a cow with a body condition score of 1?
- 5. What is the most prudent and effective way to eliminate calving problems?
- 6. What hormone, produced by the follicles of the ovaries, is present at estrus?
- 7. What does the American Simmental Association acronym "THE" represent?
- 8. With regard to determining frame scores, what is the most common device for determining an animal's height?
- 9. USDA Yield Grades are determined basically by what single factor?
- 10. What feedstuff is commonly added to act as a binding agent and to settle dust in feed?

Answers:

1. Extremely fat; 2. Capacitation; 3. 30 days; 4. Very thin; 5. Select a bull with low calving ease EPD; 6. Estrogen; 7. Total Herd Enrollment; 8. A frame score measuring stick; 9. Cutability; 10. Molasses

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3/4 Simmental

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Selling pick of the top end of 8302's 2021 calf crop by Exclusive, Fort Knox & Quantum Leap
- Selling a top end Bred Heifer by Fort Knox
- Selling a fall 2021 daughter by Relentless
- Selling 4 maternal sibs by Fort Knox



#3631496

3/4 Simmental #3631488

W/C Executive Order x Sandeen Donna 5120



3/4 Simmental
Remington Lock N Load x Sandeen Donna 8386



#3317712

3/4 Simmental #3290384



1/2 SimAngus

GCC Hard As Steel x Sandeen Lady 9761

Sandeen Upper Class x Sandeen Lady 2956

History Shows the Way Forward

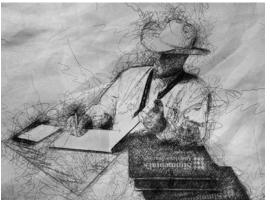
Dr. Bob Hough is a beef industry professional and historian with strong ties to the Simmental breed



Dr. Bob Hough

by Lilly Platts

Dr. Bob Hough has a notable history in the **beef industry**, and has been responsible for recording the story of several breeds through his work as an author. In 2018, he authored Simmental's American Journey, which documents the breed's path to the United States, and lavs out the events that led the Association to its current place in the industry. He is also a beef industry professional, holding a PhD in animal science from Virginia Tech. Hough has worked in Extension, as the CEO for Red Angus of America, traveled across the world evaluating cattle, and has authored hundreds of industry-focused articles for a variety of publications. With a skill for understanding and sifting through science, Hough writes for the beef producer and with the goal of communicating important information to the industry. Today, Hough continues to write and use the study of history as a tool for moving the beef industry forward.



Building a Career

Hough's family had a farm in Pennsylvania, where at times they cut and sold fence posts, had a Polled Hereford herd, milked cows, sold hay, and farmed. He attended Penn State, the University of Connecticut, and Virginia Tech, receiving his BS, MS, and PhD in animal science, respectively. He went through graduate school on teaching assistantships, which included working with the livestock judging teams. In 1988, Hough joined the faculty at the University of Maine as an Extension specialist working for his wife's uncle. Hough recalls, "One of the biggest training grounds I had was in Maine. My wife's family had been in Maine Extension since the late 1930s starting with her grandfather who was a potato specialist."

Hough's uncle-in-law/boss leased him a university car and told him, "I don't want you sitting behind a desk writing publications no one will read; I want you in that car, out working with producers." During this time, Hough developed byproduct feeding systems, started feeder calf sales, worked as an editor for the *Journal of Sustainable Agriculture*, was a busy livestock judge, spoke at meetings, and served on a variety of committees. This work earned him the Maine Beef Industry Service Award, and he was inducted into the Maine Beef Hall of Fame. Hough recalls, "I was exposed to everything: purebred, commercial, feeder calf sales, feedlots, and I even ran a ram test. I can't imagine anywhere I could have been exposed to or learned more."

In 1994, after receiving promotion and tenure, Hough left the faculty to manage a high-profile Angus operation. However, a farm accident had him back looking for a job, and he was hired by the Red Angus Association of America (RAAA) to serve as their marketing coordinator. Hough relates, "Red Angus at the time probably had no historical parallel. It was a small breed that was ranked outside the top ten in registrations. It was also very regional, with 23 percent of its registrations in Montana, and the membership was largely homogenous, with a large number of big breeders with 500 to more than 1,000 cows. This whole scenario allowed for innovative programs to be proposed and implemented at a speed unimaginable at a traditional association."

An example Hough brings up is carcass EPD. When he started in late summer of 1994, one of his jobs was to get a carcass EPD program off the ground. He found there was pent-up data, so by January 1996, they had already released their first carcass EPD.

By the fall of 1997, Hough had assumed the role of CEO. He explains, "The whole point was to have a commercially focused breed that had the best, objectively described cattle in the industry. We also made the conscious decision that we wanted the breed to be the common maternal denominator in commercial producers' crossbreeding systems. We defined our customers as commercial producers, and we made the decision to put no effort or resources into breed growth, but instead focused on member profitability based on a commercial bull market — all radical positions in their day."

Hough authored Simmental's American Journey.

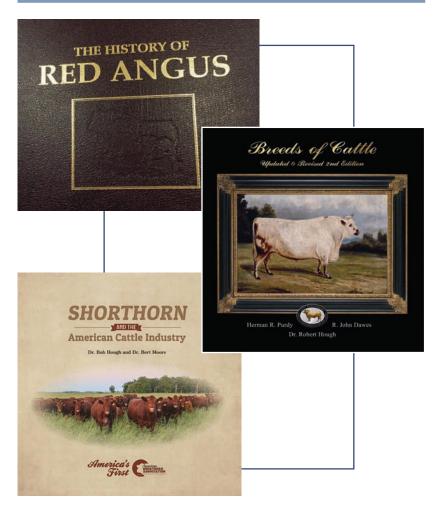
Hough has authored a number of breed association history books.

To accomplish these goals, Hough says, "We implemented a large number of industry-first programs including mandatory Total Herd Reporting, data filters, Stayability EPD, Heifer Pregnancy EPD, a Female Reproductive Sire Summary, Maintenance Energy EPD, the first USDA Process Verified Program with Feeder Calf Certification Program, and grid value-based marketing."

Interestingly, because of the focus on objective selection and profitability, the breed grew from outside the top ten to cracking the top five in registrations during Hough's tenure. At the RAAA's 50th anniversary, he was named one of the 50 Most Influential People of Red Angus, and has received their distinguished service award.

Hough reflects, "At the time, the breed was so unique in terms of having visionary breeders who were willing to row upstream, which was combined with a small, nimble association. Throw in Dr. Bruce Golden at CSU (Colorado State University), and there were just a lot of very bright people around unencumbered with the knowledge of what you couldn't do at a breed association. I doubt whether a similar set of circumstances will ever happen again."

(Continued on page 16)





In Maine, Hough developed byproduct feeding systems.



Hough has evaluated livestock across the world.



Progress Through Performance Shows

Mark Your Calendars for 2021-2022 Major PTP Open Shows

All dates are subject to change.

American Royal October 23 & 24, 2021 www.americanroyal.com

North American International Livestock Exposition November 17, 2021 www.livestockexpo.org

Cattlemen's Congress January 9-11, 2022 www.cattlemenscongress.com

National Western Stock Show January 15-19, 2022 www.nationalwestern.com

Fort Worth Stock Show January 30, 2022 www.fwssr.com The American Simmental Association is proud to sanction high-quality Purebred Simmental, Percentage Simmental and Simbrah Progress Through Performance (PTP) shows throughout the country. The PTP program is designed to promote multi-level progress within the SimGenetics industry. PTP shows effectively combine the assessment of statistical data, such as EPD and actual measurements, with traditional phenotype evaluation.

PTP Judges

PTP approved judges have been deemed as respectable and knowledgeable cattle evaluators by the ASA Board of Trustees Activities & Events (A&E) Committee. Each year the A&E Committee inspects the list of approved judges and makes modifications when necessary. View the PTP approved judges list at: www.simmental.org.



ASA PTP RING OF CHAMPIONS 2021-2022





Only the Major PTP shows involved in the National Show rotation are eligible for ASA PTP RING OF CHAMPIONS 2021-2022.

Shows include: 2021 American Royal

2021 North American International

Livestock Exposition

2022 Cattlemen's Congress

2022 National Western Stock Show

2022 Fort Worth Stock Show

Award Divisions

- ◆ Purebred Simmental Female of the Year
- ◆ Purebred Simmental Bull of the Year
- ◆ Percentage Simmental Female of the Year
- ◆ Percentage Simmental Bull of the Year
- ◆ People's Choice Bull of the Year
- ◆ People's Choice Female of the Year

Oualifications

- Exhibitor must be an active member in good standing with the American Simmental Association
- ◆ Purebred Simmental: 7/8 Simmental and up
- ◆ Percentage Simmental: at least 1/2 Simmental, but less than 7/8 Simmental
- ◆ Animals and their exhibitors must abide by the rules of the show(s) in which they participate
- ◆ All ASA Ring of Champions award winners must at a minimum complete an ultra-low density DNA test before awards are given

Additional information

PTP Coordinator 406-587-4531 • ext. 518 ptp@simmgene.com







EXPOSITION





History Shows the Way Forward

(Continued from page 13)



Hough has studied the history of cattle in the US extensively, including the early days of cattle drives.



Hough explains that the Shorthorn breed offers an early lesson on the importance of maintaining a focus on the commercial industry.

The pedigree building at the Chicago Stockyards.

How History Informs Us

Throughout his career in the beef industry, Hough has been interested in history and has used its study as a tool for progress. Hough explains, "Studying history, you notice these convergences of brilliance — the famous Ohio State judging team after World War II, the performance movement in the mid-50s, the start of the Simmental Association, and RAAA when I was lucky enough to be there. These special times only occasionally happen in history, whether studying breed associations or countries. It is important we learn from these times as we grow and move forward. When we forget about those moments of brilliance, we've lost a lot. Likewise, we must learn when people get it wrong, too."

Hough's study of history has positioned him as an industry expert, and he has authored a number of books including *Simmental's American Journey*, *The History of Red Angus*, *Breeds of Cattle*, and *Shorthorn and the American Cattle Industry*.

The Simmental breed arguably has the best "comeback" story in the beef industry, after teetering over the brink of obsolescence. Hough explains, "When Simmental came over and the Association formed, it was done by one of these groups of leaders and visionaries that got it right."

The breed saw early success, adding pounds to commercial calves across the country, and performance was at the heart of the Association's founding principles. However, by the 1980s, like many breeds in the industry, a number of influential breeders became hyper-focused on the show ring and the "frame race" cattle it took to win. In the process they lost their commercial market. Hough notes that fads are rarely productive



other than marketing cattle to the uninformed. "As a result, Simmentals had become too big-framed, hard-doing, hard-calving, had too many structure issues, and earned the unbecoming nickname 'Sickentals.' They just were not the right kind of cattle to make money commercially, and could no longer rely on the new breeders and new money constantly required to keep a seedstock-only market going."

Feedlots placed Simmental on their "no buy" lists, and were vigilant about looking for any traits that could identify the breed's influence, like spots, rat tails, or diluted color. Against all odds, the breed was able to pull out of this. There were a number of challenges on the path to regaining the commercial industry's trust, but Hough explains that, again, history highlights that first led by Jerry Lipsey, a special group of people and decisions took Simmental to its current place in the industry. "Typically, the 'no buy' list is a permanent ticket to oblivion for a breed. Simmental is the only breed I know of that managed to successfully regain commercial demand. They did the hard things of collecting data and changing the cattle. Of particular importance, they stayed the course for the 10 to 15 years it takes for a breed to make a course change."

Lessons like this can be seen throughout history, and Hough says that there are a number of common threads he has seen throughout his study of breed association histories. He explains, "From the beginning of the seedstock industry, keeping the right long-term priorities is a challenge for a breed association. Going the fad route always has appeal, but maintaining a sustainable commercial market is key. It's not that you can't service all aspects of the industry, but you have to decide what your base will be. I am proud that for a time during my tenure at RAAA, we had the show ring and commercially oriented folks in sync. It can be done."

Hough explains the lesson of early Shorthorn. "After the Civil War, Shorthorn experienced a fad focused on certain dualpurpose (milk and meat) bloodlines and extreme inbreeding. Because of inbreeding depression, the fertility and vigor got so bad that the cattle from the most sought-after bloodlines became few in number. This lack of fitness should have ruined demand, but instead made them collector items, adding value. At the same time, Shorthorn had the Western market sewn up. They could profitably sell all the red bulls they could produce. However, instead of sending their Western customers the beef Shorthorns they needed, Shorthorn breeders were sending dual-purpose bulls, which were a byproduct of the Midwest purebred fad."

For 15 years Shorthorn dominated until Hereford came in numbers around 1880. Hough says, "The weaknesses of these dual-purpose Shorthorn-Longhorn crosses were laid bare when a droughty summer was followed by the historically bad winter of 1886–87 in what became known as 'the big die up.' The next spring, the dual-purpose Shorthorn crosses tended to be dead, and the Hereford crosses tended to be alive." As Hough jokes, "Being alive is an important, economically relevant trait."

(Continued on page 18)



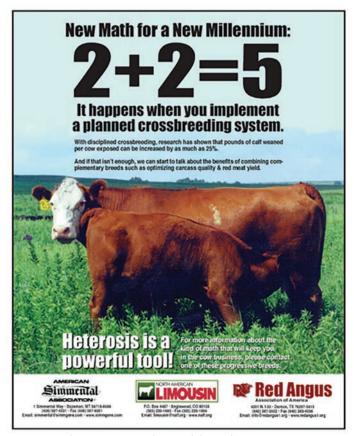
Hough became interested in history after noticing what he calls the "convergence of brilliance" that happened throughout the formation of breed associations . Pictured is the founding Board of ASA.

History Shows the Way Forward

(Continued from page 17)



The Union stockyards in 1866.



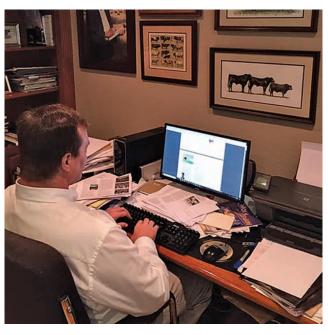
An advertisement Hough created during his time at RAAA, demonstrating his focus on the commercial market.

Today, Hough writes articles for industry publications.

This is an extreme story of chasing fads, but Hough says fads will seemingly always be with us. "However, the common thread among successful breeds is they maintain, as a basis, a commercial market," Hough says. "If you go back to the stockyard days, Chicago had a pedigree livestock building where all breeds could house themselves at no charge because they thought it was very important to use upgraded bulls on the commercial cows to get a better product. That's why the International Stock Show was formed in 1900, and before that there was the American Fat Stock Show. It was all meant to create a better product."

Moving forward, Hough says we can use these stories found in history to make educated decisions. He also mentions that the industry should never lose sight of what the consumer wants, keeping traits like carcass size, fat, and grade in mind.

Hough concludes, "I don't live in the past — I like passing through and learning from history — but where I want to live is in the future. When I do my regular writing, the future is what excites me: Where are we going with genetic predictions, and systems, and those kinds of things. I become informed from the lessons of the past as part of the puzzle of where to go in the future. They are tied together, and I can't do one without the other." Hough cautions the need for perspective when studying history. "In the end, contentment and rose-colored glasses are two of the biggest enemies of a successful breed. It is easy to idealize the past, but change is the one constant in our industry and life. The goal is to find the nuggets of brilliance in history and discard what no longer applies. That is how we make a better future."



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Sequencing Simmental Bulls and Multi-breed Heifer Pregnancy

High-impact research funded by Walton Berry Graduate Student Support Grant

by Jackie Atkins, PhD

Advancing genetic research in beef cattle and helping train the next generation of animal breeders — these are the priorities of the Walton Berry Graduate Student Support Grant. Inspired by Dr. Bob Walton's impact in the world of cattle genetics, the grant started in 2013 with primary support from Jim Berry of Wildberry Farms. To date, the total contributions to the Walton Berry Graduate Support Grant have reached \$87,871 and have awarded just over \$80,000 in grants.

This year's grants went to two projects of high importance to research and development of genetic knowledge in beef cattle. The first project funded went to a team of researchers at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA): Drs. Troy Rowan, Sarah Moorey, and Jon Beever. Their research proposal is a collaborative grant leveraging sequence-level genomics to examine multiple components of beef cattle genetics, including cow rebreeding phenotypes, crossbreeding and heterosis, imputation's impact on genetic predictions, and identification of novel variants. The Walton Berry Grant will fund the sequence of 25 Simmental bulls to add to the genomic reference library, amounting to a \$10,000 grant. One outcome of this project could be to improve our ability to use genotyping technology like low pass sequencing (LPS), a method to sequence cattle at a much lower cost than previously available, making the study of novel genomic influence potentially more accurate. The UTIA Genomics Center plans to match the number of sequenced bulls, adding a substantial population of Simmental sequence records to the reference library.

"To maximize the utility of ASA's data in genomic analyses, we propose sequencing the genomes of more animals to bolster the effectiveness of sequence-level imputation and the surveillance of novel variants with the potential for deleterious effects (i.e., genetic abnormalities, cosmetic traits, etc.)." Rowan explains further, "The UTIA Genomics Center is excited about a wide range of future collaborations with the American Simmental Association. In the coming years, leveraging sequence-imputed data in mapping studies and genetic evaluations will become increasingly attainable. This means that regularly sequencing influential animals is of great importance. We anticipate that this research will make appreciable contributions to both the scientific literature and, more importantly, to Simmental breeders across the US."

The second grant is the second year of support of \$5,000 toward the development of an International Genetic Solutions (IGS) Multi-breed Heifer Pregnancy EPD with Drs. Scott Speidel, R. Mark Enns, Milton Thomas and PhD student Lane Giess at Colorado State University (CSU). This research team is churning away and making steady progress toward a new trait for the IGS genetic evaluation that has been on the wish list for years. Their research will "build a broader understanding of the underlying genetic control of heifer pregnancy, the contributions from hybrid vigor, and the genetic/genomic relationships of heifer pregnancy with other economically relevant traits currently in EPD production with IGS."

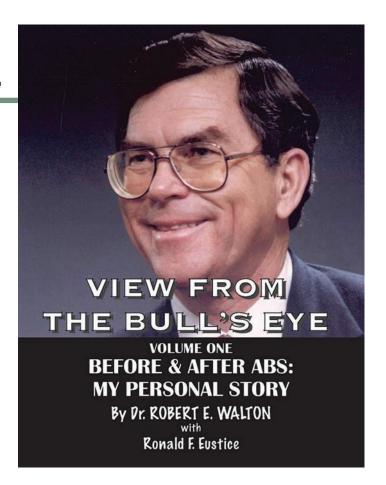
The team at CSU is well suited to develop an IGS multi-breed heifer pregnancy EPD. For years, the animal breeding and genetics researchers at Colorado State University have conducted a heifer pregnancy genetic evaluation for a number of entities, including some of the breed associations in IGS. The research team of Speidel, Enns, and Thomas with ASA's very own Lane Giess as a graduate research student and support from Dr. Randie Culbertson, the IGS lead geneticist and CSU alumni, is a perfect collaboration to make the multi-breed heifer pregnancy EPD a reality.

The 2021 funding of the Walton Berry grants went to two extremely worthy research groups and projects. The Walton Berry grant is making an impact to support high-priority research in beef cattle genetic improvement, and train the future animal breeders and geneticists. If you are interested in donating to the Walton Berry Graduate Student Support Grant, please reach out to the American Simmental-Simbrah Foundation at 406-587-4531.

Dr. Walton Releases View From The Bull's Eye

Dr. Robert (Bob) Walton with Ronald Eustice recently published an autobiography detailing his career as a leader and scientist in the beef industry. Walton begins his story in Shattuck, Oklahoma, where he was born in a sod house on the family homestead during the Depression. His love for genetics started started when he was a teenager who was fascinated with Punnett Squares and inheritance. This intense curiosity took him through college, eventually earning a PhD in animal breeding, genetics, and statistics at Iowa State University.

Walton spent 30 years at American Breeders Service (ABS), serving as president from 1967 to 1992, and led the company through a number of industry-leading projects. Alongside his work as a geneticist, Walton developed a herd of Simmental Cattle and has been a longtime supporter of education and science in the breed. The Walton Berry Graduate Student Support Grant was started in 2013 by Jim Berry of Wildberry Farms, to honor Dr. Walton's dedication to animal breeding and Simmental cattle. *View From The Bull's Eye* can be found at a number of booksellers online, including Amazon and Powell's Books.



Past Recipients

2020 – Drs. Scott Speidel, R. Mark Enns, and Milton Thomas, with PhD student Lane Giess at Colorado State University. Funds used to develop IGS multi-breed heifer pregnancy EPD (first of two-year funding).

2020 – Dr. Megan Rolf and MS student Andrew Lakamp, at Kansas State University. Funds used to research the genetic control of methane production in beef cattle.

2019 – Dr. Hao Cheng, University of California. Funds used to build a faster genomic prediction tool.

2019 – Dr. Jared Decker, University of Missouri. Funds used to support graduate research to study abroad at the University of Edinburgh's Roslin Institute in Scotland, looking at genomic signatures of selection to apply to population genetics.

2018 – Dr. Jason Ahola, Colorado State University. Funds used to study beef cow mature size across varying environments.

2018 – Dr. Lauren Hanna, North Dakota State University. Funds used to characterize efficiency traits in the commercial beef cow herd.

2017 – Dr. Jared Decker, University of Missouri. Funds used for graduate student travel to Beef Improvement Federation meetings and develop extension publications.

2017 – Drs. Scott Speidel, Milton Thomas, and R. Mark Enns, Colorado State University. Funds used to investigate stayability genetic predictions using endpoints beyond six years of age.

2016 – Dr. Jerry Taylor, University of Missouri. Funds used to identify potentially lethal haplotypes in beef cattle.

2015 – Dr. Heather Huson, Cornell University. Funds used to study the genetics of Digital Cushion Thickness and pay travel expenses for a graduate student to present research findings at an international conference in Sweden.

2015 – Dr. Megan Rolfe, Oklahoma State University. Funds used to analyze genetic links to water intake in beef cattle.

2014 – Dr. Jennifer Thomson, Montana State University. Funds used to study the genetics and objective measurements of temperament in beef cattle.

2014 – Dr. Stephanie McKay, University of Vermont. Funds used to characterize the brain methylome in steers with extreme measures of docility.

2013 – Drs. Jennifer Bormann, Bob Weaber, Dan Moser, and Mike MacNeil from Kansas State University. Funds used to support graduate student stipend and living expenses for a collaborative research project in quantitative and molecular genetics in beef cattle at the US Meat Animal Research Center.

State Marketplace

California

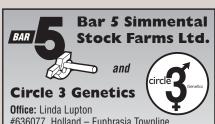


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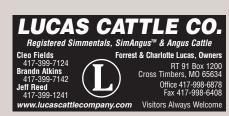
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> J&C Annual Bull Sale – January 29, 2022

> > (Continued on page 26)

Spring Enrollment is Here! Tips and Timelines for Enrolling in THE

Have you wondered whether Total Herd Enrollment (THE) is right for you? Who should participate? When do you enroll? How do you enroll? Will you be notified? This article provides answers to all these questions and more.

Why Total Herd Enrollment?

- It is a dam productivity program, which allows us to track the influence the dam is having on her progeny. Collecting data on sires, because of the number of progeny they will have, comes quite easily, but dams are a different challenge. At best, a dam might have 2–8 calves in a lifetime, with a few exceptions. So collectively, by thousands of breeders submitting data on their dams every year, we can get an informative picture of dams' influence on their progeny.
- We can then calculate maternal trait EPD more accurately.
- It allows the breeder to make better selection decisions when looking at a dam's EPD and her calving intervals.
- It is an inventory program, where one can manage the cows in their herd.
- The progeny have a true and complete contemporary group in order to ratio and rank against each other. It allows the cream of the crop to really shine when all contemporaries are reported.
- It allows the breeder's herd to run through the largest genetic evaluation.
- When breeders are running multiple breeds, it allows all of the breeds to be compared on the same EPD base, instead of having to recalculate EPD per breed to try and compare.
- Access to a free software to report data 24/7, and access to a variety of standard or customized reports to analyze data.

Who is THE For?

THE is for herds that collect individual data on the entire calf crop, maintain accurate female records, and use at least two

sires in the birth contemporary group, whether commercial, registered, or herds of other breeds. Since deadlines are a part of THE, the herd must also be able report data in a timely manner.

When does THE enrollment open?

Spring Calving is Jan. 1-June 20

Spring Early Enrollment opens Oct. 15–Dec. 15 each year Late Spring Enrollment is Dec. 16–Feb. 15, plus a \$1.00 per cow late fee

Fall Calving is July 1-Dec. 31

Fall Early Enrollment opens April 15–June 15 each year Late Fall Enrollment is June 16–August 15, plus a \$1.00 per cow late fee

How does one enroll in THE? You can complete your enrollment online through Herdbook by going to Data Entry→Online Inventory, and select Update Cow Inventory Online.

- 1. You can download an Excel spreadsheet on Herdbook by going to Data Entry→Online→Inventory, and select Download, complete the enrollment with the spreadsheet, and then upload the completed data into a job online.
- 2. Or, a paper application can be requested by emailing THE@simmgene.com or calling the THE department.

How will you know when THE enrollment opens?

You will have a notice on your My Account page under THE Status.

- There will be a tear-out sheet for THE in each November issue of *the Register* for spring herds and in each May issue of *the Register* for fall herds.
- eNews will have several announcements when THE opens and throughout the enrollment season.
- If you have an email on account, email notices will be sent throughout the two months of early enrollment.
- If you are late enrolled, you receive a packet in the mail with a bright pink sticker that says "return by February 15, 2022" (for spring calving) or "return by August 15, 2022" (for fall calving).

Tips For Reporting Calf Data:

- From the time calving begins to June 30, you can start a job online and enter in the calves weekly as they are being born. Or, you can download your active dams into a spreadsheet, enter the calf data offline, and when calving is done upload it to Herdbook.
- If you had a calf born in the last two weeks of December but it needs to be in the same contemporary group with the next year's spring calves, enter into the "Calf Year" column the January year. Example: if the calf is born on December 23, 2021, enter that as its date of birth and if you want it to contemporary with the 2022 spring born calves, enter 2022 in the "Calf Year" column. By doing this, it will apply the 2022 THE enrollment record to that calf.
- Use appropriate calf removal codes for heifers if they are not retained in the herd. They will not preload on your inventory in two years if the codes are entered before they are 18 months of age.

- If possible, collect the basic required data on deceased calves carried full-term. It is better to give the dam credit for calving than to use a productivity code. Then, give the deceased calf an appropriate calf removal code.
- If you are a spring calving herd, you have until February 15 of the next year to submit calving data before noncompliance takes effect.
- Every dam enrolled must have a calf reported. If she did not calve, then use productivity codes that best describe why she did not calve in the "Productivity" column along with the productivity year.

Interested in enrolling in THE? See the tear-out on pages 33-34



Spring Herds THE Year in a Nutshell:

October 15–December 15, 2021 — Early enrollment is open. It is critical that you check your inventory.

- Save money by updating your inventory. Don't pay for dams that are gone from the herd. Auto-enrollment doesn't know if a dam died, was struck by lightning, or sold without papers, so don't rely on auto-enrollment to be accurate.
- Make sure all purchased animals are listed, whether registered or commercial.
- Don't assume because you transferred the dam she will be gone from your inventory; you may have to cull her.
- Make sure all cows and first-time heifers under associated junior accounts are added to the inventory if the whole herd runs together.
- When doing Spring enrollment, if you use an enrollment code 2 or 3, this will move the cow to fall. That is okay if you have a fall herd or are starting a fall-calving herd.
- If you purchase cows after enrollment time, email THE@simmgene.com and we will add them for you.

■ If you are getting email notices that your THE is not completed, don't ignore it. If a job is not submitted, your THE is not complete and you risk being late enrolled.

First week of January: All accounts that did not complete early enrollment will be auto-enrolled into Option A, no matter what the previous year's enrollment was.

December 16–February 15: Auto-enrolled herds or late enrolled herds can complete their enrollment and get credit back for changing options and cows that are culled with the exception of a \$1.00 per active dam late enrollment fee.

Early enrolled herds: Did you know that during this time you can cull cows that leave the herd and get credit back?

January 1-June 30: Calving season underway!

July-August: Collecting weaning data.

November–January: Collecting yearling data; give all of the heifers that are not retained in the herd an appropriate calf removal code.

State Marketplace

(Continued from page 23)

Nebraska cont.



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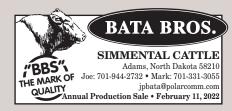
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Annual Bull Sale • March 4, 2022



(Continued on page 31)

Performance Data Collection Guide

Definitions, Tips, Timelines, and Use

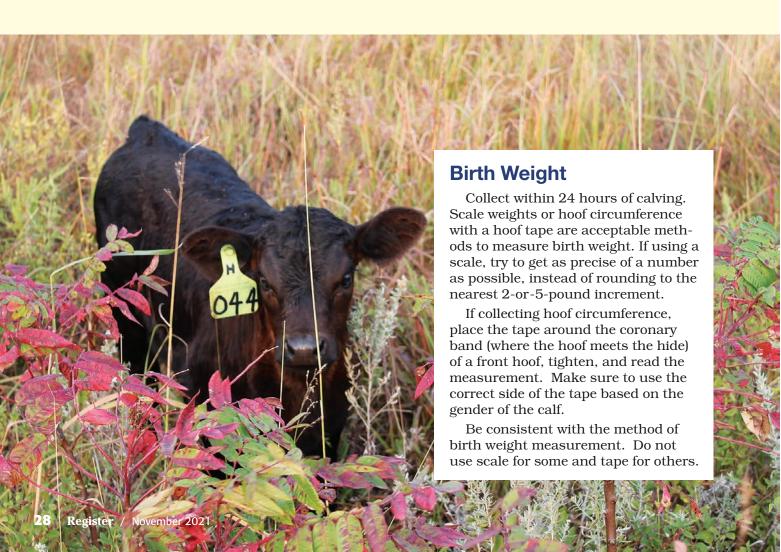
by Jackie Atkins, PhD, director of Science and Education

hen it comes to performance data collection, the seedstock breeders, cow-calf operators, managers, and hired hands all play a pivotal role in collecting phenotypic measurements and reporting them into a system to use the information to its fullest extent. This rests on your shoulders, my friends. If you want to get the most complete picture of the genetics of your herd, then you have to commit yourself to collecting the most complete set of records AND using them to analyze your operation and your genetics.

It is not enough to measure the animals and write it down in your record book or in a notebook. Records sitting in a pile of papers on your desk will NOT be used to their fullest extent. I empathize that feeding records into an analysis of your herd's performance or a genetic evaluation is not an easy task, nor do many of us wish

to spend hours with a computer working on this step. But in order to use your herd performance to its fullest, this is a necessary step. This might mean you hire someone to help digitize your records, twist the arm of a family member, or simply sit down and do it yourself. There are many approaches and software platforms to use. My advice is to find a system that works for you so that you USE the records you collect.

The following information is to clarify the best approach for collecting various performance records and to provide a one-stop shop with information you need to gather these data points. This article breaks down each type of phenotypic record and the best way and time ranges to collect them to take away any indecision surrounding this essential component of beef cattle improvement.



Calving Ease Score

This score indicates how easily a calf was born. Only scores 1 through 4 are used in the genetic evaluation of calving ease, but scores 5 through 7 can be used to further describe the calving event. If a calf's birth was unobserved (hence unassisted), use a 1 as the primary score. If entering scores into ASA's Herdbook, every calf should have a primary score (1-4) but two-digit numbers may be used for more thorough accounting of calving. Examples: Use 36 to indicate a hard pull and dead on arrival. Use a 25 to indicate an easy pull with an abnormal presentation.

- 1 = Born unassisted
- 2 = Easy pull
- 3 = Hard pull
- 4 = Cesarean
- 5 = Abnormal presentation (omitted from genetic evaluation)
- 6 = Dead on arrival (omitted from genetic evaluation)
- 7 = Premature (omitted from genetic evaluation)

Udder and Teat Scores

Collect udder and teat scores within 24 hours of calving. Two scores are assigned based on udder suspension (1-9, with 1 being very pendulous and 9 being very tight) and teat size (1-9, with 9 being

very small and 1 being large and misshapen). Ideally one person scores all the udders/teats during the calving season for consistency.

Score	e Udder	Suspension	٦	Teat Size
9	Very Tight	A P	Very Small	Seve -
7	Tight	No. of the second	Small	The same of the sa
5	Intermediate		Intermediate	A ROS
3	Pendulous	100	Large	AN STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA
1	Very Pendulous		Very Large, Misshapen	100

(continued from page 29)

Weights

Measure to the nearest whole pound increment. Scale needs to be calibrated and cleaned periodically. Take empty body weights — in other words, cattle waiting to be weighed that are drinking water will be heavier than cohorts weighed without waterfill. Ideally, weigh all cattle the same day or you can take two weights on the animal and use the average.

Weaning Weight: Measure as close to 205 days of age with an acceptable window (with ASA) from 160-250 days of age.

Yearling Weight: Measure as close to 365 days of age with an acceptable window (with ASA) from 330-440 days of age.

Mature Cow Weight: Measure at the same time as collecting a body condition score (BCS). Weigh entire cow herd groups at the same production stage. In other words, do not weigh some at calving, some at breeding, and some at preg check time. Ideally, the entire cow herd is weighed, but if that is not feasible, weigh age groups of cows (for instance, all the two-year-olds and five-year-olds). For genetic evaluation, it is best to have a weight at two years and again by or before six years of age.

Body Condition Scores (BCS)

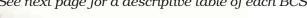
Scores can be used for both management decisions and to input information about the genetics for size and intake into a genetic evaluation. Like other subjective measurements, consistency is key. Ideally, the same person is assessing the BCS, and scores on cattle are collected during the same production stages (pre-calving, calving, breeding, etc.).

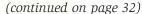
Bulls: Best timing is at least six weeks prior to breeding season and throughout the breeding season.

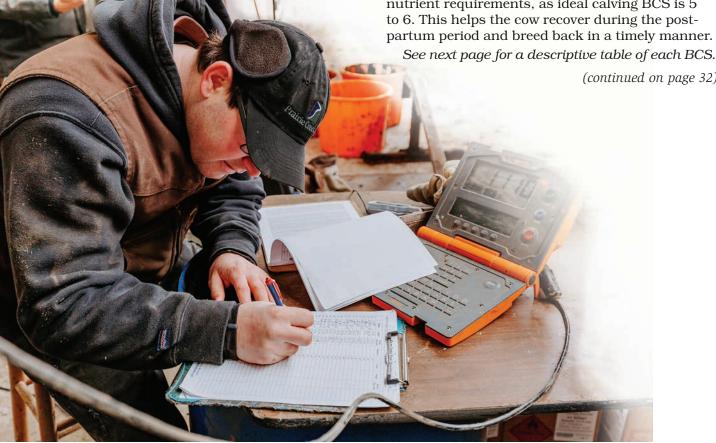
It is ideal for bulls to enter into the breeding season in a BCS of 5.5 to 6.5 (neither undernor overconditioning is good for the success of the breeding season). A bull may lose 100-200 pounds during the active breeding season so evaluating BCS throughout breeding helps to determine if the bulls require supplementation.

Cows: Best timing is 60-90 days before calving, at calving, and at weaning or pregnancy diagnosis.

For genetic evaluation purposes, scoring cows at the same time as mature weight collection is ideal. For management purposes, scoring at weaning helps to know how to feed cattle leading up to calving, as the ideal time to add body condition is between weaning their current calf up to the last trimester of pregnancy. Assessing body condition 60-90 days prior to calving helps to determine nutrient requirements, as ideal calving BCS is 5 to 6. This helps the cow recover during the postpartum period and breed back in a timely manner.







MENU MORSELS

Spicing up your dinner table with tasty, beef-based dishes.

Fall Vegetable Beef Stew

Ingredients

- 3 lbs boneless round or chuck, cut into 3/4 inch pieces
- 2 tbsp vegetable oil

½ tsp salt

- 1 can beef broth
- 1 can diced tomatoes and green chilies
- 2 medium zucchini, halved lengthwise and cut crosswise into ¾ inch-thick pieces
- 2 tbsp cornstarch dissolved in 3 tbsp water

fresh cilantro, chopped sour cream chopped tomato

Directions

- In a Dutch oven, heat oil over medium-high until hot. Cook and stir beef in two batches; browning evenly. Pour off drippings. Return beef to the pan and season with salt.
- Stir in broth and diced tomatoes and green chilies. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to low. Cover tightly and simmer gently for 1¼ hours.
- 3. Stir in zucchini. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to low. Cover tightly and continue to simmer for 15–20 minutes, or until beef and vegetables are tender.
- 4. Stir in cornstarch mixture. Cook and stir for one minute until thickened.
- Serve with cilantro, sour cream, and chopped tomato for garnish as desired.

Editor's Note: Each month a favorite beef recipe is presented in this space. the Register encourages and welcomes contributions from the ASA membership. This month's recipe is from the Texas Beef Council.

State Marketplace

(Continued from page 27)

South Dakota cont.



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Washington



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Visual indicators to Evaluate Body Condition Scores (BCS)

	BCS	Spine	Ribs	Hooks/Pins	Tailhead	Brisket	Muscling
This	1	Visible	Visible	Visible	No fat	No fat	None/Atrophy
Thin	2	Visible	Visible	Visible	No fat	No fat	None/Atrophy
	3	Visible	Visible	Visible	No fat	No fat	None
Borderline	e 4	Slightly visible	Foreribs visible	Visible	No fat	No fat	Full
Optimum	5	Not visible	Not visible	Visible	No fat	No fat	Full
Condition	6	Not visible	Not visible	Visible	Some fat	Some fat	Full
	7	Not visible	Not visible	Slightly visible	Some fat	Fat	Full
Over- condition	8 ed	Not visible	Not visible	Not visible	Abundant fat	Abundant fat	Full
	9	Not visible	Not visible	Not visible	Extremely fat	Extremely fat	Full

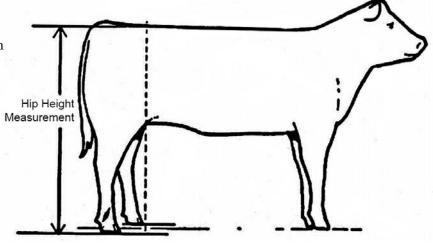
Adapted from Herd and Sprott, 1986; BCS = body condition score

Hip Height

Hip Height/Frame (weaning, yearling, or with mature weight):

The recommended site for hip height measurement is a point directly over the hooks (see image). Cattle should be standing on a flat and even surface. A word of caution about hip heights: the use of body condition score is a better genetic predictor of size and intake than hip height. According to the BIF Guidelines, "Caution should be taken when using the frame score equations and tables. These calculations were developed from cattle data from the 1970s. Cattle have changed tremendously since then, and the growth curve has likely changed, as well. The relationships of height as animals age may no longer be correct. Additionally, predictions of expected carcass weights or mature cow weights based on these frame scores that appear in many publications are

likely incorrect today. Cattle today tend to be heavier, at similar heights, to cattle used to develop the frame score equation." Consult the BIF guidelines (guidelines.beef-improvement.org) for conversion of hip heights to frame scores at various days of age.



Height Measurement



The American Simmental Association encourages all members to participate in our whole herd reporting system, called Total Herd Enrollment (THE).

	THE Enrollment Codes
0	Cow Bred to Calve During the Season
1	Heifer Bred to Calve During the Season
2	Not Exposed – Moved to Next Season
3	Exposed and Failed to Conceive – Moved to Next Season
4	Exposed and Failed to Conceive – Moved to Next Year
5	Donor Cow
6	Recipient Cow
44	Not Exposed – Moved to Next Year
	THE Removal Codes
60	Exposed and Failed to Conceive
61	Aborted
62	Age
63	Appearance
64	Calf Loss at Calving
65	Calf Loss Post Calving
66	Color
67	Died – Calving
68	Died – Other
69	Died – Sickness/Disease
70	Disposition
71	Herd Reduction
72	Hoof Condition
73	Horned
74	Injury
75	Production/Performance
76	Prolapse
77	Sickness/Disease
78	Sold, Breeding Purposes, Paper Not Transferred
79	Sold, Breeding Purposes, Paper Transferred
80	Structural Soundness
81	Udder Quality
82	Genetic Defect Status

Start with your Preliminary Inventory

by accessing it online (see reverse for instructions), or use paper packet received by mail/email.

Instructions (See Enrollment Template below)

- 1 *Confirm all active cows are listed
 This should include any cow enrolled in previous year, first-time heifers, and purchased cows.
- * <u>Primary Code</u> Enter an Enrollment or Removal Code for each cow *(codes are listed to the left).*
 - Any cow remaining in herd should be given an Enrollment Code.
 - Any cow being removed from the herd should be given a Removal Code.
- **3** Additional Code Optional field for secondary Removal Code (*Primary code MUST already have a Removal Code*).
- *<u>A/B/C/D/N</u> Enter an enrollment option for each cow (see pricing on reverse).
 - All registered Simmental/SimGenetic must be enrolled in the same option.
 - Commercial or foundation cows may be in a different enrollment.
 - Enter "N" for any cow being removed.
- 5 BillCode Enter "H" to pay half of the enrollment fee now and the second half will bill later in the year. If left blank, billing will default to full payment at time of submission.
- 6 Remarks Optional field if you wish to add additional remarks on a cow. This column is for member use only. ASA will not adjust enrollment based on this column.
- 7 To enter a new commercial cow, fill in the following:
 - "AnmTattoo" with the cow's tattoo
 - "BirthDt" with the cow's birth date
 - "BrdCds" with the cow's breed composition The cow will be assigned a permanent ID number to be used for all subsequent enrollments and calf reporting.
- *All underlined fields are required



Enrollment Template

AnmReg Nbr	AnmTatt	Primary Code	AddtnlCode	A/B/C/D/N	Season	Animal Name	BirthDt	BrdCds	EnrYear	BillCode	Remarks
4		(2)									6
			3	4		7					0

Send Your 2022 Spring Inventory to ASA by December 15, 2021

- Online using Data Entry section of Herdbook Services www.simmental.org
- Email THE@simmgene.com Mail One Genetics Way, Bozeman, MT 59718

Total Herd Enrollment Payment Options:

Enrollment Fees:	Option A (TR) Total Registration \$15.00	Option B (SR) Selective Registration \$0.00	Option C (LR) Limited Registration \$7.50	Option D (CM) Commercial \$390/herd
Registration Fees:	\$0.00	\$30/\$40/\$50 ^a	\$30/\$40/\$50 ^a	\$42/\$52/\$62 ^a
Choosing the best options:		^a Depending on age of calf	^a Depending on age of calf	^a Depending on age of calf
If you register > 45% of your calf crop.	1			
If you register < 45% of your calf crop and don't use EPDs for selection decisions.		/		
If you register < 20% and use EPDs for selection decisions.			✓	
If you have a commercial herd.				✓
Benefits of Enrolling:				
EPDs to make informative selective decisions.	1	Reg. Animals Only	✓	Females Only
Herd participates in genetic evaluation.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reproductive record on every cow enrolled.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Commercial cows or cows of other breeds are eligible.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Requirements when enrolled:				
Every registered SM/SI dam must be enrolled.	✓	✓	✓	
Each dam enrolled must have calf or productivity reported/year.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deadlines to be met for enrollment and calf data.	1	✓	✓	✓



Instructions for Online Enrollment



www.simmental.org

- 1. Go to www.simmental.org and select Herdbook
- 2. **Log In** by entering
 - 6-digit member number (zero filled example: 000317)
 - Password
- 3. Under Data Entry select Online
- 4. Select the **Inventory** tab
 - Click Spring
 - Make sure year shows 2022
- 5. Select Update Cow Inventory Online

-OR

Select file type then **Download** to load your preliminary inventory into an Excel spreadsheet

- 6. See front for Inventory instructions and codes for both methods of entry.
- 7. To upload completed Excel spreadsheet:
 - Save file to desktop and log in to Herdbook.
 - O Under Data Entry select Upload
 - Enter a **Job Title** such as "(Year/Season) THE Upload"
 - Under Type select Animal Enrollment
 - Click **Browse** attach saved THE file
 - O Click Upload File
- 8. Review Errors and/or Warnings

Job must be submitted prior to **December 15, 2021,** to avoid late fees.

• Errors

(indicated by red triangle at left side of line)

- Select the Errors tab errors will be listed and MUST be resolved before submitting
- Herds in Option D must email job number to THE@simmgene.com for final processing
- Warnings

(indicated by a purple triangle at left side of line)

- Select the Warnings tab review each warning listed, correct if needed
- Job may be submitted without resolving all warningss
- 9. Select Submit Data
 - If **Edit Job** button shows, select button, resolve the error(s) and submit again
 - Select Proceed to Billing for billing summary (After December 15, 2021, all options will have a balance due reflecting the \$1.00 non-refundable late fee per animal.)
 - Select Add Payment. Enter credit card information.
 Select Confirm
 - Select **FINAL SUBMIT** (Enrollment will not be completed without this step.)
 - The **Invoice Status** will change to **Complete**, print and store for your records.
- 10. To save job and return later, click Save and Exit. The job will remain in an incomplete status under your account.

 Please note that billing is based on the submission date, not the date it was started. Job must be submitted prior to December 15, 2021, to avoid late fees.

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Performance Data Collection Guide Definitions, Tips, Timelines, and Use

(continued from page 32)

Docility

Assess docility at either weaning or yearling (see "Weights" section for acceptable age windows). Score an entire age group of cattle at the same time (don't score some at weaning and others at yearling). The following table describes the chute scoring method used by the ASA. Have one person do all the scoring (avoid one person doing some of the cattle and another person scoring the other portion). Being consistent is key to subjective measurements like docility.

	1 = Docile	Mild disposition. Gentle and easily handled. Stands and moves slowly during processing. Undisturbed, settled, somewhat dull. Does not pull on the headgate when in a chute. Exits the chute calmly.
	2 = Restless	Quieter than average, but may be stubborn during processing. May try to back out of chute or pull back on headgate. Some flicking of tail. Exits chute promptly.
	3 = Nervous	Typical temperament is manageable, but nervous and impatient. A moderate amount of struggling, movement, and tail flicking. Repeated pushing and pulling on headgate. Exits chute briskly.
	4 = Flighty (Wild)	Jumpy and out of control, quivers and struggles violently. May bellow and froth at the mouth. Continuous tail flicking. Defecates and urinates during processing. Frantically runs the fence line and may jump when penned individually. Exhibits long flight distance and exits the chute wildly.
	5 = Aggressive	May be similar to score 4, but with added aggressive behavior, fearfulness, extreme agitation, and continuous movement, which may include jumping and bellowing while in a chute. Exits the chute frantically and may exhibit attack behavior when handled alone.
	6 = Very Aggressive	Extremely aggressive temperament. Thrashes about or attacks wildly when confined in small, tight places. Pronounced attack behavior.

(continued on page 38)

The decision you make today will influence the next 20 years.



CALF CROP

GENOMICS

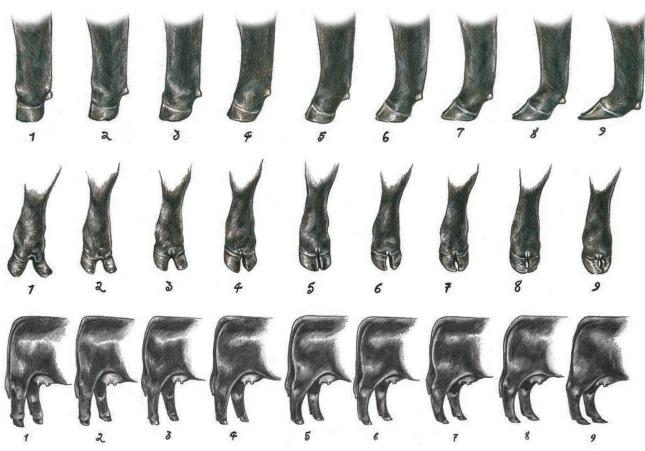
Make it a good one.

Performance Data Collection Guide Definitions, Tips, Timelines, and Use

(continued from page 36)

Feet and Leg

- 1. **Hoof Angle** a description of the angularity that exists between the base of the hoof to the pastern. Can describe steepness, shallowness, and length of toe.
- **2. Claw Shape** a description of the digital conformation with regard to shape, size, and symmetry. Can describe divergence and openness, or curling/crossing of claws.
- **3. Rear Leg Side View** a description of the angularity that exists in the hock joint in relation to movement. Can describe straightness and rigidness, or overflexion of the hock joint.



Artwork by Amanda Raithel Art

Guidelines recommended for feet and leg data collection:

- Score the three traits (Hoof Angle, Claw Shape, and Rear Leg Side View) on a 1 to 9 scale using the above rubrics.
- If there is variation in conformation of hoof traits between front/rear or left/right, score the worst hoof.
- Scores should be collected on all yearling bulls and heifers up to 18 months of age to capture whole contemporary groups. Reminder: animals that contemporary by themselves will not have their scores included in the evaluation.
- Scores may be evaluated annually on mature cows (taken in conjunction with mature weights and body condition scores).

- Score all animals prior to any hoof trimming.
- Score animals on a level and hard surface, devoid of mud or grass to ensure an accurate appraisal.
- Score all animals on the same day, from the same evaluator.

Ultimately, feet and leg appraisal and data collection has a range of benefits, including training membership to become more aware of conformational differences and characteristics in the soundness of their cow herd and annual seedstock offering, building a more robust understanding of feet and leg traits as direct indicators of soundness and longevity, and building a data set for EPD development so all can benefit from more precise genetic selection. (continued on page 40)

NOV. 16 2021

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Performance Data Collection Guide Definitions, Tips, Timelines, and Use

(continued from page 38)

Carcass

Carcass Ultrasound (yearling age ranges):

Scan data typically includes ultrasound back fat thickness, ribeye area, rump fat,and intramuscular fat. Ultrasound data needs to be submitted by a certified ultrasound technician (find one at http://ultrasoundbeef.com/Technicians.php). It is important to note that ultrasound traits are not equal to harvest records. While they help predict carcass traits, emphasis on acquiring harvest records is vital to carcass trait prediction.

Harvest Records (age dependent on feeding, breed, and type of animal): Harvest records are rare and valuable for understanding the end product produced. For genetic evaluation and management decisions, most carcass information boils down to: 1.) the amount of retail product from an animal, and 2.) the quality of the beef on the animal.

Back fat thickness: Indicator of yield grade. External fat measured at the 12th rib, back fat thickness is used to estimate the yield percentage. As back fat increases, the percentage of retail product decreases.

Dressed carcass yield: Calculated as the hot carcass weight divided by the live weight multiplied by 100 and influenced by fill, muscling, fat, hide, etc. Heavier muscled cattle have a higher dressing percentage.

Hot carcass weight: Weight of the carcass as it leaves the slaughter floor.

Ribeye area: Ribeye muscle measured at the 12th rib to indicate yield.

Yield grade: Calculation that indicates the amount of retail product and measured in whole numbers from 1 (most retail product) to 5 (least retail product), although yield grade expressed in tenths is best for comparing animals.

Marbling score: Estimation of the intramuscular fat in the ribeye between the 12^{th} and 13^{th} rib.

Numerical Scores				
	Quality Grade	e Marbling	Score	
	Prime	Abundant	10.0 – 10.9	
	Prime	Moderately Abundant	9.0 – 9.9	
	Prime	Slightly Abundant	8.0 – 8.9	
	Choice	Moderate	7.0 – 7.9	
	Choice	Modest	6.0 – 6.9	
	Choice	Small	5.0 – 5.9	
	Select	Slight	4.0 – 4.9	
	Standard	Traces	3.0 – 3.9	
	Standard	Practically Devoid	2.0 – 2.9	

Additional metrics are used to indicate palatability of the beef, and influence quality grade. These include color, firmness, texture, and tenderness estimates like Warner-Bratzler shear force.

Individual Feed Intake

Individual feed intake records are often taken post-weaning or around yearling age. Growth is also measured during the intake test period.

Warm-up period: Depends on the background of the cattle and the type of feed intake system. If calves are already accustomed to eating out of bunks, a seven-day warm-up period with the feed intake system is likely adequate. For cattle that have not been bunk-broke yet, they could need up to a 21-day warm-up period.

Feed Intake Test: Recommend a 42-day minimum which allows for missed days due to weighing or problems with the intake measurement.

Weights: Animals should be weighed two days in a row (to adjust for fill) at the start of the test and at the end of the test, or cattle can be weighed five times throughout the test period.

(continued on page 42)

ALL PURPOSE MORE PROFIT



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(continued from page 40)

Fertility Records

Fertility is a lowly heritable trait, influenced by many factors. The fastest way to increase fertility is to use a crossbreeding system. Breeding soundness exams (BSE), reproductive tract scores (RTS), and pregnancy records are all valuable records for managing reproductive outcomes in your herd. These also take specialized training, and in many states require veterinarians to perform the service. Scientists at Kansas State University are looking into the genetics of fertility in bulls and are seeking both BSE and pregnancy records from producers to contribute to the scope of this study.

Reproductive Tract Scoring and Pelvic Measurements: (four to six weeks prior to breeding). Used to assess pubertal status of heifers and cull problem breeders. Half of the heifers should be cycling (score of 4 or 5) for a successful breeding season. If less than half are cycling, consider adjustments to nutrition, timing of the breeding season, and including products that induce cycling in an estrous synchronization protocol (for instance, MGA or Eazi-Breed CIDR).

Breeding Soundness Exams (prior to breeding season): Performed by a veterinarian or a trained reproductive physiologist. Should include both a physical examination of the bull to determine his ability to move and physically breed plus a semen test to look for potential loss of fertility associated with sperm quality and movement.

Pregnancy Status (timing varies depending on the method): Blood tests can detect pregnancy as early as 30 days post-conception, ultrasound as early as 27 days, and rectal palpation 35 days or later. These require trained personnel and have various degrees of accuracy. Use of ultrasound allows for detection of heartbeat and sex determi-

nation of the fetus. If pregnancy rates fall below your expectation, consult with a veterinarian or reproductive physiologist to discuss ways to improve fertility.

Regional Records

Hair Shedding (recorded for yearling during the spring — in most parts of the country May is best timing): Scores are on a scale from 1 to 5 with 1 meaning hair is completely shed (ideal for heat tolerance) and 5 having a full winter coat (worst for heat tolerance). If you missed the yearling age, shedding scores can be taken on mature animals as well. Ideally, the whole herd is scored on the same day by the same person. To date, hair shedding scores are not used routinely in genetic evaluation, but can be used as a culling tool to reduce heat stress (consider culling cows with a 4 or 5 score, especially in warmer climates).

Pulmonary Arterial Pressure (PAP; yearling cattle): PAP is an indicator of high-altitude disease and is used for the screening of animals who are susceptible to pulmonary hypertension. PAP testing is a veterinary procedure used to confirm the presence of pulmonary hypertension by measuring the pressure in the pulmonary artery. These measurements are typically taken at >5,000 feet of elevation in yearling cattle. A lower PAP score indicates less pulmonary stress, reduced susceptibility, and a more desirable phenotype.

PAP scores are used both to determine if an individual animal is at risk for high-altitude disease and now can also be used in genetic evaluation to predict the likelihood of an animal's progeny to have a risk of high-altitude disease.

Hair Shedding

Score	Definition	Description
1	Slick, short summer coat (100% shed)	Hair shedding is complete
2	Coat is mostly shed (~75% shed)	Hair shedding complete except for lower region of rib
3	Coat is halfway shed (~50% shed)	Hair shed down the brisket and along topline
4	Coat exhibits initial shedding (~25% shed)	Hair shed on neck and around tail head
5	Full winter coat (0% shed)	No hair shedding



If Beef is Your Business





American Simmental Association

To learm more about the CMP visit www.simmental.org, then click Carcass Merit Program under the Commercial tab.

Questions, contact lgiess@simmgene.com for more information regarding this program.

The American Simmental Association Carcass Merit Program (CMP) is the beef industry's most demanding and informative young sire test. The program is a hallmark of ASA breed improvement for economically relevant carcass traits. Commercial producers play an integral part in this project.

Participants receive:

- ◆ \$60 for each AI-sired calf with carcass information
- ◆ Free semen on top young herd sires
- ◆ Free ASA Genetic Evaluation on your cowherd
- ◆ Free genotyping on terminal progeny
- ◆ Keep any or all replacement females

Become a Carcass Merit Program test herd today

*The CMP is a structured young sire progeny test. Participating cooperator herds will random sample their cowherd with CMP semen, and the resulting male (or female) progeny will be harvested with individual carcass data gathered. ASA Staff will work with cooperator herds to provide bulls that fit the general criteria of your management program, however only bulls nominated into the CMP program may be used. Producers are encouraged to be somewhat proficient in Microsoft excel for accurate and consistent record keeping.

Much More Than A Simple Carcass Test

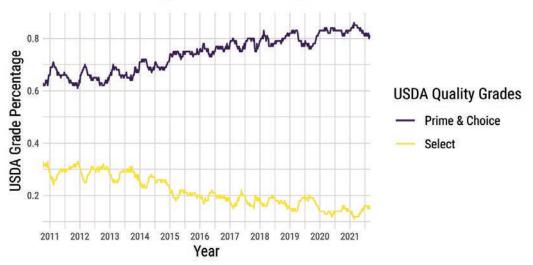
by Lane Giess, director, Commercial and Nontraditional Data Programs

Results from the 2018 Carcass Merit Program and the need for diversity in carcass programs. By now readers may be overwhelmed by the amount of content dedicated to the importance of actual carcass data collection. But if we take a moment to think about why that is the case, it highlights the reason so much time, energy, and funds are spent on the actual retrieval of terminal information. Simply, carcass data collection is no easy task, but an important one.

The financial impact of carcass value awareness has never been greater. Whether one is selling feeder calves or harvest-ready steers, the business is taking advantage of more and more knowledge to place valuation on calves. Beef consumers simultaneously reap the benefits of added eating quality and are responsible for pushing the accelerator for carcass genetic improvement, particularly marbling.

Consider the change in carcasses grading choice in such a short period of time. In the early 2000s we were grading in the upper 50% choice. Today, that number would likely get any procurement professional relieved of his duties. Just a quick look at USDA numbers over the last decade shows that the push continues at a breakneck pace.

Week-Ending USDA Quality Grade Totals



The American Simmental Association has a rich history of being at the forefront of collecting and gathering carcass data. The organization established the Carcass Merit Program (CMP) in the late 1990s, and it was a large contributor to the resurgence and growth in popularity of the Simmental breed. Not only did the CMP establish a method for generating extremely valuable carcass data, the program also encompassed full lifespan performance traits such as calving ease, fertility, and feed efficiency to name a few. Nominated Simmental and Simbrah CMP sires were compared against high-accuracy sires from other breeds (primarily Angus). It could be argued that, for members, the greater utility of the CMP was the ability to compare SimGenetics to those other breeds' performance, which allowed membership to

have real-world data to show potential bull buyers the merits of SimGenetics.

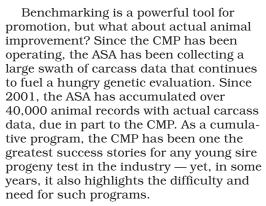
Today, we have many ways of benchmarking the terminal merit of SimGenetic cattle compared to other breeds. The Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Cooperative provides unbiased, powerful comparisons on the performance of different breeds in a terminal setting. Kansas State University investigated sire breed group comparisons (English, Continental, Simmental, and SimAngus) for terminal value and carcass traits. Simmental and SimAngus calves showed similar marbling to English-sired calves, which had at least 0.3 less USDA yield grade. Ultimately, Simmental- and SimAngus-sired calves were at least \$20 more profitable in overall carcass value compared to Continental- or English-sired calves.

Tri-County Carcass Profitability Results

sire preed group	# of Animais	Carcass val		
English sired	45,055	\$1,299.22		
Continental sired	6,511	\$1,303.29		
SimAngus sired	3,767	\$1,319.73		

\$1,334.04

Simmental and SimAngus-sired calves provide at least \$20 more per carcass than other breeds.



Simmental sired

I think no one would argue that 2020 was a difficult year of turmoil, uncertainty, and change. Ripple effects from COVID-19 are still being felt, and the CMP is one of those unfortunate collateral casualties. The CMP class of 2018 fell victim to packing plant restrictions, market volatility, and even some change in cooperator herd management.

Now, to be clear, some of these issues were already in the works prior to the pandemic, and in any given CMP year there is always turnover where data loss is a natural thing. A certain level of data loss is expected due to difficulties of carcass data collection, and so redundancies such as sampling the same CMP bull in multiple herds is done to prevent inadequate sampling. But when redundancies fail, this makes for a less-than-exciting CMP class of 2018 carcass report.

In 2018, a total of 2,059 units of semen on 35 sires were bred to commercial cows in nine cooperator herds. This was the one of the largest CMP classes in recent history, and should have resulted in approximately 600 calves with carcass data. Instead, the program netted 439 terminal animal records. A whopping one-third of the expected data were lost. The real casualties, however, are the bulls nominated for which no carcass data on progeny were collected, and because of the significant time lag of three years between breeding and harvest — time is the real loss.

(continued on page 46)



CARCASS MERIT PROGRAM

Cooperator Herd Responsibilities

- Breed at least 100 cows at random in a commercial setting
- Select from list of nominated CMP bulls
- Select at least four unique sires
- Coordinate breeding dates and shipping times with ASA CMP coordinator
- Provide AI breeding summary
- Enroll all dams in Herdbook and report full calf information
- Communicate harvest dates and locations with ASA CMP coordinator
- Birth data: calf ID, birth date, birth weight, and calving ease
- Weaning data: weaning date, weaning weight, tissue samples on all designated terminal calves
- Yearling data: feedlot ship date, feedlot entry weight
- Carcass data: hot carcass weight, marbling score, ribeye area, fat thickness, processing data
- Must retain ownership

Cooperator Herd Benefits

- Free semen on top young herd sires
- Free ASA genetic evaluation on cow herd
- Free genotyping on terminal progeny
- Keep any or all replacement females
- \$65 for each Al-sired CMP calf with terminal data
- Access to full range of ASA research DNA programs

Responsibilities of CMP Sire Nominators

- Enroll young sire at \$1,500
- Provide 100 units of semen
- Ensure young sire is AI certified (high-density genomic panel)
- Ship semen to ORIgen for storage
- Ship semen prior to the beginning of breeding season (April 1st)

Responsibilities of ASA

- Guarantee at least 12 carcass data per CMP sired in the program
- Reimburse \$125 for each carcass record less than the guaranteed 12 animals
- Coordinate shipment of semen to cooperator herds
- Coordinate data retrieval and report back to test herd and bull owners

Much More Than A Simple Carcass Test

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45)

CMP Sires Sampled in 2018

Sire Name	Registration #	# of Carcass	Sampled in 2019
GIBBS 1084Y Tux & Tails	2676362	5	
GW TRIPLE CROWN 018C	2954741	12	
GIBBS 4478B RELEVANT	2968383	7	
JC ENGINEER 102C	2976529	5	
RHF-SFG 0053Z 427Z 410	3009999	23	
ES LOADOUT CA11-2	3025430	13	Yes
RC BILLBOARD NS 437C	3102045	10	
SFG3 MMARK X 156B D3	13 3107252	17	
6462D	3116712	4	
BAR CK 1006X 6005D	3235289	17	
DFF SWEETWATER NS D60	3239491	11	Yes
DFF MR PROFIT NS D67	3239492	21	
SLN AVONDALE E8062	3250533	21	
Hook`s Eagle 6E	3253742	5	
Hook's Encore 65E	3253795	4	
GIBBS 6176D FACEBOOK	3256169	13	
GIBBS 6328D IMPACT	3256237	6	
GIBBS 6784D STATELINE	3256375	9	Yes
GIBBS 6155D SUPER DUTY	3256504	13	
K-LER Architect 709E	3268068	13	Yes
TJ High Plains 986E	3288842	12	
GW VINDICATOR 312E	3295296	8	
ASR Strong Arm E7209	3303671	5	Yes
ASR Black Nomad E7215	3303694	5	
KBHR Wentz E190	3312184	2	
KBHR HIGH ROAD E283	3312276	6	
SAS BITTEN E532	3313620	2	
Camp Campbell E737	3319012	6	Yes
WLE SMITH MULTITASK E3	3374442	0	Yes
3C PASQUE 4331B B	2914313	0	
IR Imperial D958	3210738	0	
DFF DUNDEE NS D52	3239478	0	
GW Major Move 390E	3242835	0	
LRS CRAFTSMAN 120E	3261167	0	
TJ ROOSEVELT 366E	3288497	0	

Carcass data collection is not easy, and following a single animal through its entire lifecycle is met with many hurdles. Changes in ownership and technological failures are a couple of the main drivers behind loss of information. Historically, packing plants have been extremely protective of their data, and so retained ownership is now a baseline requirement if you are even to begin to receive the data. Selling cattle for cash is no longer an option. Tag loss and electronic ID readers have a tendency to fail, and even having one carcass fall off of the rail can result in total ID disruption.

Perhaps the biggest interruption is the fact that few packing plants regularly even collect individual ID, meaning that if a load of cattle is shipped on the wrong day, the plants may not have the personnel to collect the needed information. There is nothing more disappointing than having a load of retained-ownership cattle getting killed on the wrong day, and getting a dataset with individual data but no ID, resulting in effectively useless data.

Cooperators of the CMP have a lot invested as well, as they receive \$65 per animal with carcass data. Losing this information hurts their bottom line as much as it hurts the ASA and its members.

That's not to say the CMP class of 2018 was without success; many of the bulls nominated were able to get appropriately sampled, and have contributed to our understanding of their carcass merit.

Never put all of your eggs in one basket, right? It's fortunate that the ASA has invested heavily in other incentives, data programs, and membership support that help contribute carcass information to the genetic evaluation. There will always be a need for ASA members to collect carcass ultrasound and encourage their commercial customers to get involved in carcass research programs.

The ASA hosts multiple carcass futurities, such as the Graham County Feedyard project and the Steer Profitability Contest.

Research programs like the Carcass Expansion Project (CXP) and Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) have surpassed the CMP in carcass data collection. The CMP was only responsible for 6% of the carcass data totals in 2018, which was the CXP inaugural year. Animals reported in 2018 with carcass phenotypes numbered 6,813, which dwarfed the 439 records collected from CMP-sired calves.







To put this in perspective, the 2018 carcass data total is nearly double from the year prior and represents a 2% increase in the percentage of registered animals with carcass information that enter the database.

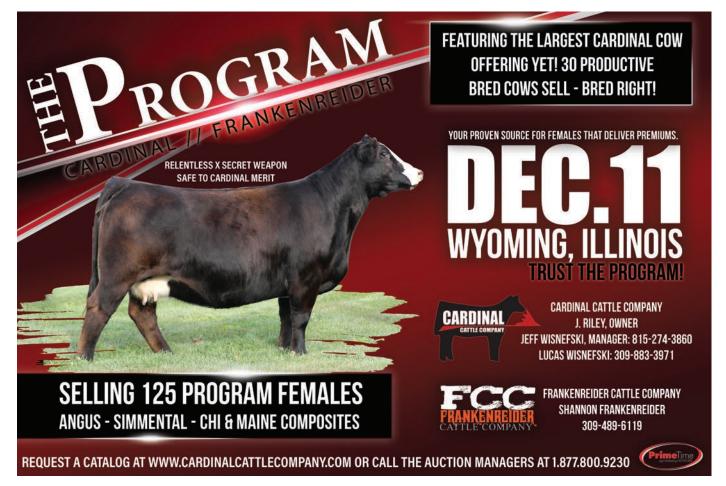
Thanks to these programs and membership engagement, the ASA is responsible for over 10,000 of the 11,000 animals with genomics and actual carcass data in the International Genetic Solutions (IGS) multibreed database. A genetic evaluation the size of IGS is hungry for information, and the ASA is one of the best when it comes to carcass data.

The ASA is dedicated to providing the most powerful scientific tools that benefit its members and its members' customers — to ignore carcass merit would be to ignore the profitability of our customers and turn our backs on the success of the beef industry. For questions relating to the ASA's carcass initiatives, please contact lgiess@simmgene.com.

Carcass Data Reported to ASA From Last 10 Years

- 2018 is the last full year of data reporting for terminal animals
- Values within parentheses are the percentage of phenotypes reported to animals enrolled

Year	Animals	Cxs Ultrasound	Carcass
2008	93,045	10,085 (11%)	1,773 (2%)
2009	89,462	10,178 (11%)	1,751 (2%)
2010	91,621	10,938 (12%)	1,828 (2%)
2011	95,471	12,791 (13%)	1,724 (2%)
2012	98,932	13,299 (13%)	2,257 (2%)
2013	104,532	13,156 (13%)	2,057 (2%)
2014	108,106	14,741 (14%)	2,126 (2%)
2015	117,842	16,578 (14%)	2,347 (2%)
2016	125,604	16,632 (13%)	3,853 (3%)
2017	133,280	17,306 (13%)	3,729 (3%)
2018	137,803	15,639 (12%)	6,813 (5%)



First Quarter Cost Share Funds Available

The first quarter of ASA's 2021–22 fiscal year (July 1, 2021–September 30, 2022) has just ended. This is a reminder that Check-Off dollars based on registration numbers in your state for the past quarter of the fiscal year are now available. Application forms are posted on simmental.org under Membership →State Associations→Check-Off Dollar Request Form. Animal registrations drive the availability of funds, so all members are encouraged to stay current on registrations.

Cost Share funds available — \$4,000 per fiscal year — to each state association are outlined on simmental.org. State associations that utilized the maximum of \$4,000 Cost Share funds last fiscal year were granted an additional \$1,000 to be used during the 2021–2022 fiscal year. Cost Share reimbursement requests should be submitted to invoices@simmgene.com.

State associations are encouraged to take advantage of ASA representation at events. Each state is entitled to two visits per fiscal year without charge as long as one is a commercially oriented event. Additional attendances can be funded, in part, with Cost Share dollars. For more information, visit simmental.org.

Four Trustee Positions Open

A total of four trustee positions are open in three regions. North Central has one open position, South Central has one open position, and Western Region has two open positions. The Eastern Region has no open positions.

Election Timetable

- Nov. 7 Trustee election ballots mailed and posted online.
- **Dec. 7** Deadline for trustee ballots to reach Chairman of the Tellers.
 - Call to Meeting mailed and posted online, including ballots, for any Rules or Bylaw changes.
- **Dec. 27** Deadline for Rule/Bylaw change ballots to reach Chairman of the Tellers.
- Jan. 6 54th Annual Meeting.

2022 Annual Meeting

ASA's 54th Annual Meeting will be held in Bozeman, Montana, at the Best Western GranTree on January 6, 2022. Check simmental.org to keep up-to-date on the January Board Meeting and Annual Meeting.

ASA Provides Open-Breed Registration Promotion

The ASA Board of Trustees recently passed an open-breed promotion to dual-register cows that are registered with another breed association at the nominal rate of \$5.00 per head for the fiscal year 2022.

Starting in July 2021, the ASA reduced the rate to register a cow already registered in another recognized breed association from \$17.00 to \$5.00 for the 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022). Any person can apply for registration on an animal registered with another breed association. To take advantage of ASA's open-breed registration promotion, all dual-

registration requests must be received or postmarked during the 2022 fiscal year. To get started, email a list of the other breed association numbers with tattoos to simmental@simmgene.com.

Digital Certificates Now Available

ASA recently launched a new feature on Herdbook allowing members to download official digital certificates for registered animals. Next year, ASA will no longer scan and email or fax copies of printed certificates, and is encouraging shows, sales, and other events to utilize digital certificates. Digital certificates are the easiest, most reliable way to obtain an official record quickly. To download a digital certificate, search for your registered animal on Herdbook. If you are logged in and the animal is registered in good standing, there will be a button to download a digital certificate. Only the current owner of an animal can access the digital certificate. Please contact the registrations department with any questions.

2021 Year-Letter is J

In accordance with the Beef Improvement Federation guidelines, the year-letter animal identification for 2021 is J, and will be followed by K in 2022, and L in 2023. The letter H was the year-letter designated during 2020.

Per the BIF guidelines, the following letters are not used: I, O, Q and $\mbox{\sc V}.$

Tracked Shipping Recommended by ASA's DNA Department

ASA's DNA Department strongly recommends members send all DNA samples in a tracked package. This can be through any carrier, so long as a tracking number is available. We also strongly suggest that kits are sent to members in a tracked package, as the extra cost can eliminate delays in regular USPS shipping, and also limit the chance of the package being lost in transit.

Priority shipping is the only way to cut down on the time it takes to get a sample tested, as there are no priority options at the lab. Upon arrival at the lab, testing takes three to four weeks, and additional time is often necessary for genomic panels to run through the evaluation.

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Calf Crop Genomic Testing Project



Calf Crop Genomics (CCG) is a recent program launched by the American Simmental Association in collaboration with Neogen. Calf Crop Genomics offers a 50% off GGP-100K genomic test including parentage (\$25 compared to \$50 equivalent test) to participating

breeders who test their entire calf crop group. Genotyping entire contemporary groups is important to:

- 1. use genomically enhanced EPD (GE-EPD) for selection decisions.
- 2. reduce selection bias in genomic predictions.
- 3. increase the volume of genotyped animals for future improvements to genetic predictions.

The latter two points make any singular genomic test in the future better for all members using genomics.

***Please visit simmental.org to review the program requirements. Obtaining a DNA sample on the entire calf crop is required. The "entire calf crop" is defined as at least 90% of the birth group of all male calves, all female calves, or both. The CCG program aims to understand the genetics of entire calf crops. Therefore, the following calves are included within the 90% requirement: born alive, but died or removed anytime before weaning; died at birth; or stillborn (full term). If the member is unable to send DNA on 90% of the birth group, they can send 100% of the calves alive at weaning to meet the CCG requirements.

Herdbook Update to Birth Weight Ratio and Collection Method

The ASA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution to change the direction of the ratio for birth weights so that larger ratios are assigned to animals with heavier birth weights in their contemporary group and vice versa. This resolution came about to standardize the direction of the ratios so that higher ratios uniformly mean more of that trait.

Additionally, breeders can now indicate if they use hoof tape to estimate birth weight in Herdbook. There is a column called "BwMethod" next to the column where birth weights are entered in the animal entry page. If the weights were estimated using hoof tape, then simply put a T in the "BwMethod" column. If birth weights were obtained using a scale, there is no need to enter anything.

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Cow Herd DNA Roundup Continues



The ASA Board of Trustees approved Phase II of the Cow Herd DNA Roundup. The project will continue to accept new herds at \$25 per sample for a GGP-100K genomic test. Members must test 90% of their calving-age cows to qualify for the reduced price.

When members submit mature cow body weights and body condition scores or hip heights on 90% of their calving-age cows, they will receive a \$5 credit to their account for each reported cow. Cows must be 18 months of age or older when mature cow measurements are taken to qualify for the \$5 credit. The \$5 credit will only be applied once in an animal's life. If a member received a credit for the phenotypes in 2018 for that cow, they cannot receive another credit for the same cow with a new weight and BCS in 2019.

With the advent of the Calf Crop Genomics Project, the ASA Board of Trustees has amended the CHR program for females younger than calving age. Heifer calves and replacement heifers are no longer eligible for the CHR research rate as of January 1, 2021, but calving-age cows and new purchases of calving-age cows will remain eligible for the research rate.

SimmApp Available

Receive the latest beef industry news, ASA alerts, *SimTalk* and *the Register* magazines, Sire Source, press releases, industry events, deadlines, educational articles, and the ASA's YouTube channel all in one place. Sign up to receive push notifications and get immediate announcements tailored to your needs. SimmApp can be found on Google Play, Apple Store, or Amazon Appstore.

Performance Advocate Program Update

2021 marks the second year with new guidelines for the Performance Advocate program, identifying top-notch data reporting that fuels ASA's genetic evaluation. Focused on submitting records on at least 90% of the contemporary group, a Dedicated Performance Advocate submits



records on at least 8 of the 14 traits, and a Driven Performance Advocate submits records on at least 10 of the 14 traits.

For participating Total Herd Enrollment members, your score is available on herdbook.org. After you're logged in, go to "Data Entry" and select "Online." On the "Online Data Entry-Inventory" page, the performance advocate compliance is viewable as a bar and half circles for each trait tracked.



by Larry H. Maxey, founder and superintendent, NAILE Fullblood Simmental Shows larryhmaxey@gmail.com

Editor's Note:

This is the fifteenth in the series Our Pioneers.

Our Pioneers — Harry E. Ferguson June 26, 1915, to March 2, 1993



Harry E. Ferguson

Harry Edward Ferguson was raised on a farm in Colorado. His father went broke during the Great Depression. Harry took a job as a meat cutter at Safeway in Fort Collins earning \$10 per week, and managed to put himself through veterinary school. With a degree in hand, he took a job paying \$50 per month plus housing in Fairfield, Montana. The snow and cold drove him out of Fairfield, and he landed in Bozeman, Montana, setting up a veterinary practice that continued until 1945

when world powers came knocking at his door.

Robert C. de Baca, author of *Courageous Cattlemen*, described Ferguson as an "incomparable cattleman." De Baca and Mary McDonnell Walter interviewed Ferguson, and much of that interview was first published in the March 1985 edition of *Ideal Beef Memo*. Many excerpts from that are included here.

"A normal conversation with Dr. Harry Ferguson is total enjoyment. It ranges from grandchildren to Simmental cattle which sounds normal enough. But it might shift to life accounts from Ethiopia to China, from irrigation systems on the Nile to hoeing corn in Nigeria. A few minutes with 'Furgy,' as many know him, can be more stimulating about world-wide news and local happenings than watching all three networks and cable news too. There is no way to walk away from a conversation with Furgy without feeling renewed."

When the world came knocking in 1945, Ferguson sold his vet practice and went overseas to China as an agent for the United Nations. He served with engagements in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and several other countries, recalling, "Many third-world people could not relate to American technology. You could not take them from behind an ox and plow and put them on a big John Deere tractor." He made some experiments with meeting the needs of people exactly where they were at. A great example of this came in Nigeria where he engineered a hoe for corn. This tool was worth more to them than any tractor that could be sold or given to them.

With the end of his two-year assignment for the UN, Ferguson returned to Montana where he opened a veterinary clinic in Butte. In 1953, he became manager of Mount Haggin Livestock, running 4,500 cows and 10,000 ewes.

By 1967, Furgy was running his own herd of Angus cows. Travers Smith stopped by one day trying to sell him semen from a bull named Parisien. He recalled, "I finally bought a cane (which was 12 ampules at the time) to get rid of the man."

In the spring of 1968, ten half-blood Simmental calves were born on Ferguson Ranch: eight bulls and two heifers. "They were the greatest calves I'd ever seen and I've never bred anything else ever since then," Ferguson said.

The Ferguson Simmental Ranch progressed into a 200-head purebred operation and is strictly performance-based. It remains a family-run ranch with multiple generations involved. One of his many philosophies was "a breed of cattle should be able to sell itself... profit is the reason for a breed of cattle to be popular. If there are many cattle of the breed it is because they are profitable. If not, beware."

Dr. Ferguson was a past president of the American Veterinary Medical Association and past president of the Montana Veterinary Medical Association as well. He was on the American Simmental Association Board for 12 years and was the only person to serve four consecutive terms as a director. In 1982, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the World Simmental-Fleckvieh Federation and was also a recipient of the Golden Book Award. His beautiful Ferguson Simmental Ranch in Montana, with Butte and Anaconda as their main supply centers, led Furgy to conclude the following when he returned home: "I sometimes think I've died and gone to heaven." A true pioneer of our Simmental family, and an "incomparable cattleman" indeed!

Note:

de Baca, Robert C. Courageous Cattlemen. Iowa State University Press, 1990.

Fullblood Events at 2021 NAILE

- Junior Fullblood Simmental Show, "The Challenge Cup,"

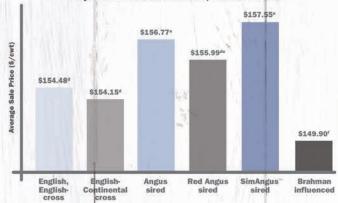
 Sunday, November 14, 8AM, Broadbent Arena.
- Open Fullblood Simmental Show, "The Pinnacle," Monday, November 15, 9AM, Broadbent Arena. Percentage Fleckvieh Simmental Show, "The Fleck Effect," to follow.

MORE PER HEAD PERIOD



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^a For lots of 50 head or more. ^b Kansas State University, December 2020, Superior Livestock Auction data analysis of 3,280 lots, 394,900 head of beef calves marketed during summer 2020. (P<.0001)

^c Lots that qualified for breed-related programs were excluded from the model due to potential confounding effects with sire breed analysis and, for many, few lots in the data.

d, e, f Means without a common superscript differ (P<0.05) Lots of calves in breed-identified groups were sired by bulls from the respective breeds and out of dams with no Brahman influence.

Indiana Field Day

Trennepohl Farms (TF) hosted the 2021 Indiana Simmental Field Day on August 23. Approximately 50 people attended to listen to guest speakers and view the TF bull and donor battery, as well as evaluate upcoming fall sale heifers. Speakers included Buck Chastain (beef nutrition), Matt Claeys (structural scoring traits in cattle), Luke Bowman and Barry Wesner (ASA update), Tami Jacobi (CRP programs), Bridgette Wanhainen (Beginning Farmer Loans through FSA), and Robert Zupanzick (NRCS cost-share opportunities for livestock producers). The highlight of the day was ribeyes prepared by grillmasters Jeff Trennepohl and Sippy Walton.





Kansas Summer Tour

The Kansas Simmental Association (KSA) hosted their summer tour and profitability conference on July 24 in northeast Kansas. The tour began at Rock Creek Ranch, a multigenerational ranch owned and operated by the Houck family. During this tour stop, participants were able to learn about the ranch's breeding program and view cattle on display.

The tour group then traveled to Badger Creek Ranch for lunch, KSA's annual meeting, and a roundtable

discussion. The roundtable discussion featured speakers from the cow-calf, stocker, feedlot, and sale barn sectors and focused on how producers can capture added value on their calf crop from preconditioning. Cattle were on display on site from Badger Creek Ranch, managed by Clint Woodrow, and High Bred Simmentals, owned and operated by the Luthi family. While it was a hot July day, participants enjoyed networking with other producers and viewing great sets of cattle.





Simmental Represented at North Dakota Stockmen's Convention



The American Simmental Association participated in the North Dakota Stockmen's Association 90th Convention and Trade Show as a bronze-level sponsor. The annual gathering of North Dakota cattle producers and supporters was held September 19–21 in Minot. A full program of industry leaders and authorities presented relevant information spanning agricultural trade policies, animal disease traceability programs, the science and politics of alternative meat and milk products, and current contract marketing of cattle. The large trade show included displays of equipment, beef genetics, marketing programs, and health products. North Dakota Simmental producers are active participants serving in key leadership roles.

Former North Dakota Simmental Association executive vice president Wade Moser (right), and ASA SimSpecialist Russ Danielson.







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by Lauren Trauernicht, vice president of Finance

"A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination, and hard work." These wise words from Colin Powell perfectly sum

up the journey that is my life thus far. For as long as I could remember I always wanted to be extremely involved in the cattle industry. I remember always begging my dad to ride on the four-wheeler with him to round up cows, and having to hold on to the gas cap with white knuckles as we flew around the feeding tires. After I got a little bit older and realized there were more specifics than just the broad umbrella of cattle, the Simmental breed stole my heart.

Being involved in the American Junior Simmental Association has been a very big part of my life since I was eight years old. I attended my first National Classic in Sedalia, Missouri, when I was nine years old. It was there

that I realized how great this Association is. I had an awesome mentor named Kelsey, who had a huge impact on me and my outlook on my future as an AJSA member. From that time on, I vowed that someday I would serve as a trustee to help kids like myself, and I have kept that dream ever since.

My heart raced and I shook with nerves as I sat in the banquet hall in Brookings, South Dakota, this summer as those gray blazers were being handed out. I was so overcome with emotions and pure joy as I was handed mine and couldn't believe my dream had come true! I am so excited for everything that is to come from this experience. From planning wonderful events for all the juniors, to meeting new people, to participating in events and shows year-round, to learning all sorts of new things. Although this may sound cliché, this is truly a dream come true and I could not be more thankful for this wonderful opportunity to grow not only as a person, but as a member of the AJSA.



www.juniorsimmental.org



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Beef Exports Reach New Heights

Exports of beef by the US soared to a new one-month value during August, going over the \$1 billion mark for the first time ever, according to data released by USDA and the US Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Pork exports in August were also high, running ahead of the record pace established in 2020. Led by record shipments to China and the largest exports of the year to Japan, beef exports during August totaled 132,577 metric tons (mt). Export volume was up 21% from a year ago and the second largest in 2021, while export value climbed 55% to \$1.04 billion. For January through August, beef exports increased 18% from 2020 to 955,407 mt, with value up 34% to \$6.62 billion. Exports were also 6% higher in volume and up 20% in value compared to the record pace originally established in 2018. In addition to setting new records in China, beef exports are also on a record pace to South Korea and Central America, and have bounced back significantly to Mexico as well.

Pork exports totaled 225,822 mt in August, up 4% for the year, and value increased 20% to \$633.9 million as record shipments to Mexico and strong growth in several other markets helped offset the slowdown in muscle cut exports to China. For the year, pork exports were 1.5% for the year at just over 2 million mt, with value climbing 10% to \$5.62 billion. Pork exports are on a record pace to Mexico, Central America, and the Dominican Republic. Chilled pork exports to Japan and South Korea are also well above last year. While China's demand for pork muscle cuts is trending lower, variety meat exports to China continue to expand.

"Our transportation and labor situation is challenging, and customers continue to face an uncertain business climate due to foodservice restrictions and other economic problems. Yet, international buyers remain committed to the quality and consistency delivered by US red meat, and the US industry has gone to tremendous lengths to keep shipments moving," said USMEF president and CEO Dan Halstrom.

Processors Ask For Help

A total of 76 agricultural groups, including the Meat Import Council of America and the National Pork Producers Council, are calling on the White House to address increasing costs and long delays in the transportation of goods overseas. "American businesses have faced significant difficulties in obtaining fair and reliable ocean transport of their goods, owing both to an imbalance in the ocean container shipment system as well as unreasonable practices by ocean carriers, virtually all of which are foreign-based companies," the Agricultural Transportation Coalition (AgTC) said in a recent letter to president Joe Biden. While acknowledging steps already taken to ease the hurdles in exporting US goods overseas, the problem has only become

more dire, the coalition pointed out. "Carriers are increasingly declining or cancelling export cargo books, while frequent ship delays and cancellations with little or no notice to our exporters, is delaying shipments by weeks and in some cases even months," the letter said.

The coalition is calling on the Administration to take steps including supporting the Ocean Shipping Reform Act, HR 4996, bipartisan legislation proposed in August to address US trade imbalances with China and other nations. The bill, which was introduced by representatives John Garamendi (D-California) and Dusty Johnson (R-South Dakota), proposes to bring about the first major regulatory changes in the US cargo shipping since 1996. At issue are fees incurred when importers and exporters fail to pick up or return containers to terminals on time, even if delays are beyond their control. The problems being raised have only worsened during the pandemic, as the spread of the coronavirus clogged global supply chains and brought along lengthy waiting periods at some ports. The North American Meat Institute had warned that delays and congestion at US ports were harming US agricultural exports, including meat and poultry products.

Senate Reconsiders COOL

A bipartisan quartet of US senators, including Mike Rounds (R-SD), John Thune (R-SD), Jon Tester (D-MT), and Cory Booker (D-NJ) have announced that they are pushing a bill that would reinstate mandatory country of origin (COOL) labeling for beef. The so-called American Beef Labeling Act would compel the US Trade Representative to develop a World Trade Organization-compliant version of COOL within six months, followed by a sixmonth window for implementation. In December of 2015, Congress had repealed COOL for beef and pork after the WTO ruled that the law violated US trade obligations and discriminated against Canadian and Mexican animals shipped to the US for feeding and processing. WTO had approved those nations' proposal to impose over \$1 billion in tariffs against the US.

COOL proponents, including independent cattle producers, contend major packers' purchases of foreign animals to fill out their plants has contributed to decreased pricing for domestic animals and that beef products carrying a "Product of the USA" should be born, raised, and processed in the US. Current regulations allow US packers to use such labels for products derived from foreign-born animals, so long as those animals are processed in the US. Several measures are underway to revise the current regulations. Earlier this past summer, USDA said it would review the standard, and the White House announced plans to issue an executive order directing USDA to enact a new rule so consumers can "know where their food

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actually comes from and to choose to support American farmers and ranchers." More recently, Senator Rounds and another bipartisan group of legislators introduced the "USA Beef Act" to address the issue. In 2020, the Federal Trade Commission had proposed a rule that would more strictly enforce "Made in USA" claims.

The meat industry itself has long fought against COOL, arguing that it is a protectionist measure that adds cost, but doesn't increase consumer demand for meat products.

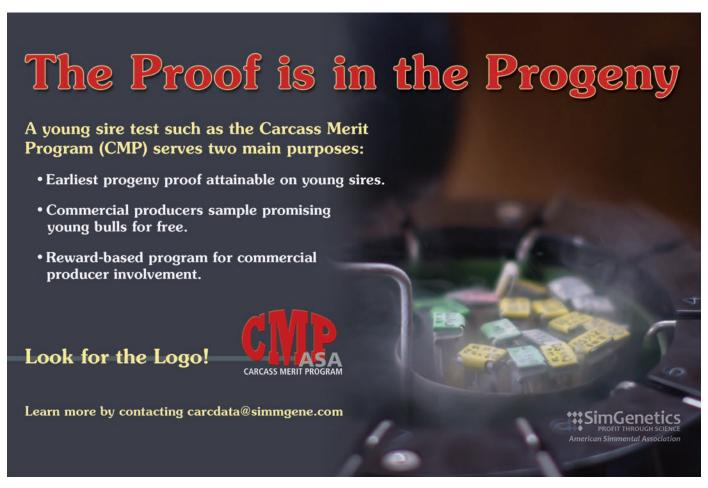
Study Reveals How Government Intervention Affects Beef Industry

Texas A&M University has issued a recent report in response to a bipartisan request from the House Agriculture Committee, finding that proposals "increasing government intervention and mandates costs livestock producers billions of dollars." That information was contained in a news release from the North American Meat Institute (NAMI). The A&M publication *The US Beef Supply Chain*, Issues and Challenges, is a compilation of the proceedings of a workshop on cattle markets held in Kansas City, Missouri, this past June. The book was pro-

duced by Texas A&M's Agricultural and Food Policy Center. Each chapter covers a different aspect of pricing in the cattle and beef markets, addressing price discovery, incentives, marketing agreements, negotiated trade, and cash trade.

"It is no surprise that the Texas A&M analysis reflects testimony at each hearing: supply and demand have the most influence on the price of cattle and goods for consumers," said Julie Anna Potts, NAMI president and CEO. "The book went one step further and examined current legislative proposals and found these proposals' unintended consequences will harm those they are meant to protect: cattle producers. This book should be required reading for members of Congress who want to help livestock producers and consumers."

As an example, in a chapter regarding proposed government mandates that would require minimum negotiated cash market purchases, Stephen R. Koontz, professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Colorado State University, found that "the short-term impact for a policy most like that being considered is a \$2.5 billion negative impact in the first year and a cumulative negative impact of \$16 billion over 10 years." This cost is leveled mainly on cattle producers, according to Koontz.





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Tom Williams Chappell Feedlot

Trait	Simmental Rank vs. Major Continental Breeds	Angus/Red Angus Rank vs. Major British Breeds
Marbling Score	First	Second
Carcass Weight	First	First
Weight Gain Feed Efficiency	First	Second
Weaning Weight	Second	First
Post Weaning Gain	Second	Second

Across-Breed EPD Table, GPE Rep. 22, MARC, USDA



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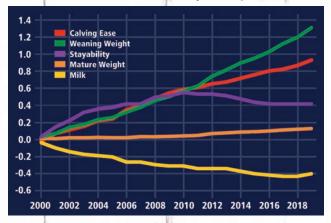
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Maternal Trait Genetic Trends

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



Simmental genetics bring calving ease, early growth, and cow longevity while keeping feed costs at a minimum.

Breed	Mature Cow Wt.
Hereford	1,419
Angus	1,410
Red Angus	1,409
Simmental	1,404
Source: USDA MAR	20

\$All Purpose Index (\$API)

predicts cow herd profitability using valuable traits like cow longevity (STAY) and calving ease while keeping pressure on terminal traits.

Compare the profit potential of two Simmental bulls using \$API

- Bull A's \$API = \$120 and Bull B's \$API = \$180
- Breeding 25 females/year
- 3 Used for 5 years

Bull	\$API		# Females per year		# years using the bull		Profit Potential
Α	\$120	Χ	25	Х	5	=	\$15,000
В	\$180	Χ	25	Х	5	=	\$22,500
					Difference	=	\$7,500

Just like an EPD, compare two bulls to see the expected difference in profit. Bull B is likely to result in direct revenue and expense savings of an additional \$7,500 over the course of five years. Plug in your numbers for 1, 2, and 3 to compare your potential earnings.

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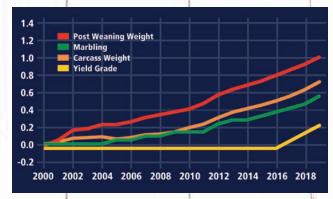
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All to strengthen your bottom line.

Terminal Trait Genetic Trends

Purebred Simmental in past 20 years



\$Terminal Index (\$TI)

predicts profitability when all calves are harvested.

Trait	Simmental rank compared to other Continental breeds
Marbling	First
Carcass Weight	Second
Back Fat	Second
Post Weaning Gain	First
Source: USDA MARC	

Simmental cattle bring marbling and growth without too much fat. Simmental genetics perfectly complement British strengths and weaknesses for an ideal carcass.

Did You Know?

 According to the National Association of Animal Breeders, Simmental ranks second for semen sales compared to all other beef breeds, and in recent years, the percentage of semen sold in the US from Simmental bulls has grown by 35%.



\$API increased 27% and \$TI increased 26% in the last 20 years. This translates to an average increased profit of \$3,375 per bull when used to sire replacement heifers and harvesting remaining calves or \$2,000 when all calves are harvested.

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Activists Arrested in California

Eleven animal activists were arrested in late September for trespassing in an attempt to disrupt production at a Foster Farms Plant in Livingston. The activist organization, which calls itself Direct Action Everywhere or DxE, organized a so-called "open rescue" and reported that activists pulled two birds out of cages on a truck headed to the Foster Farms facility, and another group of activists grabbed two birds off of a conveyor belt inside the plant. "The birds are on their way to a life of peace and love at a sanctuary," the organization boasted.

According to a spokesperson for the Merced County Sheriff's Office, DxE protestors also blocked the plant's main entrance with a U-Haul truck and chained themselves to the truck while others chained themselves to large concreted barrels and lay on the ground. The sheriff's office said that "most protestors were peacefully protesting and it is believed they have the right to protest and let their voices be heard. However, blocking traffic and not allowing people to leave or enter a place of business is illegal and will not be tolerated."

DxE said the protest was staged to pressure local authorities to take action following the group's submission of video footage to the district attorney that allegedly shows animal cruelty taking place inside the Livingston plant. The group ultimately seeks a moratorium on factory farms and slaughterhouses. In an emailed statement, a Foster Farms spokesperson said, "We categorically reject DxE allegations of widespread animal welfare and worker abuse." The company said that it worked with local law enforcement and thanked them for assistance in the matter, which did not significantly impact production. Bail for the arrested protestors has been set at \$50,000.

McDonald's Looks To Net Zero Emissions

McDonald's has committed to achieve net zero emissions across its global operations by 2050 as part of two international initiatives that aim to hold worldwide temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

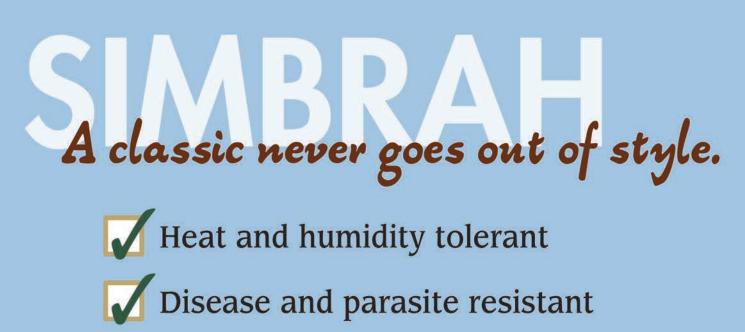
The global foodservice retailer has joined the United Nations Race to Zero campaign and has signed on to the Science Based Targets initiative's (SBTi) Business Ambition for 1.5°C campaign. The strategic mission of both initiatives is to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and hit net-zero emissions by 2050.

McDonald's said it will increase the emissions reduction levels in its existing 2030 science-based target across all scopes of emissions in line with developing SBTi best practices, and will set a long-term reduction target to reach net-zero emissions.

Efforts underway since 2018 have resulted in an 8.5% reduction in the absolute emissions of the company's restaurants and offices and a 5.9% decrease in supply chain emissions intensity measured against a 2015 baseline, McDonald's reported.

Although the most recent announcement does not specify where in the supply chain the fast-food company will look for its emissions reductions, in an earlier post on its website, the company said, "In collaboration with franchisees, suppliers, and producers, McDonald's will prioritize action on the largest segments of our carbon footprint: beef production; restaurant energy usage and sourcing; and packaging and waste. These segments combined account for approximately 64 percent of McDonald's global emissions."





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FDA Issues Draft Guidance on Donor Eligibility and Manufacturing of Cellular Therapies for Animals

The US Food and Drug Administration issued for public comment two draft guidance documents that, if finalized, will help manufacturers of animal cells, tissues, and cell- and tissue-based products (ACTPs) understand current good manufacturing practice requirements (CGMPs) for new animal drugs under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act). CGMPs help prevent contamination and help ensure ACTP quality. If finalized, the recommendations are intended to support the development of promising and innovative products that can benefit animal health.

"ACTPs have the potential to make significant changes in how we treat diseases and may provide novel therapies for unmet therapeutic needs of animals. We want to support manufacturers in the safe production of these promising products," said Dr. Janet Woodcock, acting commissioner of the FDA. "It is important to note that the FDA is not imposing any new requirements on the manufacturers of ACTPs with these new draft guidance documents. These draft guidance documents, if finalized, are intended to assist manufacturers by providing product-specific recommendations that will help developers of these products meet existing FDA manufacturing requirements. Our goal is to help manufacturers be successful in their efforts to develop innovative products that can benefit animal health."

In the draft guidance, ACTPs are defined as products that contain, consist of, or are derived from cells or tissues that are intended for implantation, transplantation, infusion, or transfer into an animal recipient. Furthermore, ACTPs refer to products that meet the definition of a new animal drug. In the draft guidance, ACTPs include both cell-based products and animal stem

cell-based products. ACTPs are most commonly investigated for regenerative medicine applications because they have the potential to repair diseased or damaged tissues in animals through regeneration and healing. Currently, these products are most commonly investigated and used in companion animals including dogs, cats, and horses; however, ACTPs may also be developed for use in other species.

All new animal drugs are required to be manufactured in accordance with CGMPs to ensure that such drugs meet the requirements of the FD&C Act for safety, and to have the identity, strength, quality, and purity characteristics that they purport to or are represented to possess. Because the manufacture of ACTPs present unique considerations for complying with CGMPs, the FDA is issuing two draft guidance documents for industry.

The first draft guidance, #253, "Good Manufacturing Practices for Animal Cells, Tissues, and Cell- and Tissue-Based Products," provides manufacturers of ACTPs with recommendations for meeting requirements for CGMPs. It addresses the methods, facilities, and controls used for manufacturing ACTPs, including steps in recovery, processing, storage, labeling, packaging, and distribution. The draft guidance also addresses methods for preventing contamination and ensuring quality of the ACTP during manufacturing.

The second draft guidance #254, "Donor Eligibility for Animal Cells, Tissues, and Cell- and Tissue-Based Products," if finalized, will assist sponsors, firms, or establishments that participate in the manufacture of ACTPs or perform any aspect of the ACTP donor eligibility determination. Selecting appropriate donors is critical to product quality and preventing the transmission of disease.

The concepts and principles in these draft guidance documents are consistent with the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research's (CBER's) regulations (21 CFR 1271 subparts C and D) and associated guidance documents for human cells, tissues, and cellular and tissue-based products.

"The FDA is seeking to improve transparency by engaging early in the development process and informing industry of our draft recommendations now, while the industry is still taking shape, as we are receiving applications seeking approval of ACTPs for use in animals," said Dr. Steven Solomon, director of the FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine. "As part of our commitment to fostering the development of innovative products in the most streamlined and efficient manner possible, we're encouraging the ACTP industry to take advantage of our Veterinary Innovation Program, which is designed to assist product developers generate the appropriate data needed to support a new animal drug application."

The FDA recommends sponsors and manufacturers of ACTPs contact the FDA early and often in the product development process to discuss considerations specific to the manufacture and approval of new animal drug products. The FDA has developed a process for these interactions through participation in its Veterinary Innovation Program, a program available to most ACTPs, and aimed at providing greater certainty in the regulatory process, encouraging research and development, and supporting an efficient and predictable pathway to approval for these innovative products.

Livestock Services

Cooking of Meat by Laser

Additive manufacturing and precise laser heating, two technologies not always associated with food preparation, have come together in Columbia University's Creative Machines Lab. A project at the lab has investigated how lasers could offer precise temporal and spatial control over heat delivery for cooking, broiling, cutting, and otherwise transforming food products. The development of 3D-printed food by the lab's Digital Food team since 2007, and current additive manufacturing platforms, can in theory deposit foodstuffs of suitable consistency with high levels of positional accuracy, just as they can for other manufacturing materials. But although basic studies of laser cooking using such printed foods have taken place, none have previously investigated the use of lasers in the printing and then cooking of meats on a single machine platform, or evaluated the taste of the results.

Researchers pointed out that while printers can produce ingredients to a millimeter of precision, there is no heating method with that same degree of resolution. The project then retrofitted a commercial 3D printer to enable the processing and laser heating of pureed chicken and used it to produce single-layer square and triangular shapes of printed chicken at different millimeter-scale thicknesses. Application of the laser to create solid structures was managed by the 3D printer's motion-control software. Successful laser cooking of the chicken layers involved a number of variables, with the project having to consider the energy required to achieve food safe temperatures; the cooling rates of laser chicken; weight and volume losses associated with laser-broiled chicken; and color changes in laser chicken. Taste testers were asked to compare printed chicken cooked using blue laser with equivalent samples cooked electrically. They declared that they preferred laser-cooked meat to the conventionally cooked samples.

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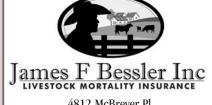
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Little Impact From Brazilian BSE

Confirmation of two atypical cases of the dreaded Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in Brazil, and China's subsequent suspension of beef imports from Brazil — in accordance with the rules of the trade agreement between the two nations — is expected to cause mild interruptions, according to some experts. China is a major importer of Brazil's beef, buying about 60% of the South American country's output, according to the *Daily Livestock Report* (DLR). But China has become a major customer of the world's beef in general, importing an estimated 6.6 billion pounds on a carcass weight basis, according to the DLR after an analysis of USDA data. That is more than double the combined amount of beef that Japan and South Korea will import this year. Just ten years ago, China imported a single-digit fraction of the beef that either of their neighboring Asian countries imported annually.

DLR also predicts that because a similar case in 2019 only lasted a couple of weeks, the suspension may also be short-lived on this occasion. Primary reason for the optimism is that China needs Brazilian beef more than Brazil needs the Chinese market.

JBS Ordered to Reinstate Indigenous Workers

A labor court in the Brazilian state of Santa Catarina has confirmed an injunction ordering JBS SA to reinstate 40 indigenous workers fired from a chicken plant after May 2020, when COVID-19 spread in the nation's meat plants, according to a report by Reuters.

The court also ordered the meatpacker to pay individual and collective damages to the workers involved in the lawsuit, Reuters reported.

The lawsuit claimed that the indigenous workers — who are considered a high-risk group for COVID-19 — should have been put on leave instead and paid during the pandemic under Brazilian law.

The Labor Prosecutors' Office in Santa Catarina sought \$2 million in damages and fines in addition to the rehiring of the affected indigenous workers.

JBS had confirmed that it dismissed 40 indigenous workers after it discontinued bus service used to transport them from their homes 373 miles away and said it paid them what they were owed.

Walmart Canada Purchasing Sustainable Beef

Walmart Canada said it is making the largest public commitment to date by a single retailer to purchase beef sourced from certified sustainable Canadian farms and ranches.

The company agreed to purchase 1.5 million pounds of beef sourced from Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (CRSB) certified farms and ranches over the next calendar year. Beef purchased through the commitment will support

the environmental, social, and economic sustainability of Canadian farmers and ranchers whose operations are certified through a third-party audited system, in accordance with standards set by CRSB.

"A milestone moment, this commitment contributes to advancing beef sustainability in Canada — and it's only the start. The amount of beef Walmart Canada sources from CRSB certified sustainable farms and ranches will continue to increase each year," Walmart said in a press release. Walmart Canada sources 100% of its fresh beef in Canada.

Audit of JBS Brazil Uncovers Issues

Nearly a third of the cattle bought by JBS SA in the Brazilian Amazon state of Para came from ranches with "irregularities" such as illegal deforestation, prosecutors found in a 2020 audit of the world's largest meatpacker.

In a presentation, federal prosecutors said they were "negotiating improvements" with companies such as JBS with "unsatisfactory and worsening" performance in the audit, which analyzed cattle transactions between January 2018 and June 2019.

In a statement, JBS said the audit changed some of its criteria, impacting the results. Prosecutors said nothing changed in their methodology or the way they audit companies.

JBS acknowledged the need to implement "additional measures to reinforce its due diligence work in the state," and said it would invest 5 million reais (\$908,265) to improve the sustainability of its supply chain.

The 2020 audit found no irregularities related to cattle purchases from Minerva, South America's largest beef exporter and a key rival of JBS, the presentation showed. Cattle ranching is one of the main drivers of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, and the results of the audit add to growing concern that JBS is contributing to the destruction by buying cattle from illegally cleared land.

The Amazon, the world's largest rainforest, is a crucial bulwark against climate change due to the carbon it absorbs and stores. JBS, along with other major meatpackers, reached a settlement with prosecutors in 2013 in which the companies agreed not to buy cattle from ranches that were cleared illegally since 2008 or otherwise blacklisted for environmental crimes.

The companies also agreed to stop buying cattle from ranchers blacklisted for engaging in slave labor, occupying indigenous land, and violating environmental preserves.

The agreement was initially celebrated for contributing to a marked fall in deforestation, but in recent years has drawn increasing criticism from environmentalists for lacking teeth. Although prosecutors have the power to fine companies for poor compliance, they have so far chosen not to do so, and preferred to work with meatpackers to improve their results. Prosecutors monitoring that agreement in Para state found JBS had improved its compliance in a 2019 audit, when 8% of cattle bought by the company came from ranches with "irregularities," down from 19% in a 2018 audit. However, that ratio jumped to 32% — or more than 300,000 head of cattle — in the 2020 audit.

Elite Simmental Genetics

NOVEMBER 27, 2021 ◆ 1:00 PM ◆ PLEASANT DALE, NE



VOLK COW J307 January Purebred
JT Volk Premonition 113E x LRS Turning Point • Division Winner NE State Fair



January Purebred CDI Innovator x WHF Classy



BTZ MISS VERSACE April Purebred Profit x HILB Miss Versace



VOLK COW E73 SC Pay The Price x JF Milestone Bred to JT Volk Premonition 113E

THE EVENT CONSIGNORS:

Kersten Cattle 402.618.8918 Rains Simmental 402.826.1270 Sisco Brothers 712.269.9102 LZ Farms 402.269.7367 Vogt Cattle 402.440.2583 Vogler Cattle 402.432.9070 Harker Simmentals 812.546.5331 Volk Livestock 402.992.9997



VCL 37H

VCL Foresight x WAGR Upside 020X Bred to VCL Alternative

THE EVENT HOST:

TUCKER CATTLE COMPANY

Brad Tucker 402.314.4488 Sale Location: 2027 A Street Road Pleasant Dale, NE 68423



LZF JANE 236J

February Purebred W/C Fort Knox x TNGLE Gemstone



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LHT MS REMEDY 134J Sired by So Remedy 7F 2021 Calf Champion & Grand Champion Female Nebraska State Fair SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 • 12:00 NOON TRAUERNICHT SALE FACILITY, 803 E PINE, WYMORE, NE 120 FEMALES • 20 FANCY SHOW HEIFERS & 100 BRED HEIFERS LHT MS COPACETIC 329H Sired by WLE Copacetic E02 3rd Overall Percentage Female 2021 AJSA Western Regional Classic **LHT MS MAIN EVENT 100H LHT MS FRANCHISE 53H** Sired by TJ Main Event 503B Sired by TJ Franchise 451D Bred to Nebraska Bred to BCI MR Hobo **BID ONLINE AT WWW.LIVEAUCTIONS.TV** 516 E Pine Road • Wymore, NE 68466 Loren 402-645-8306 or 402-230-0812 Scott 402-239-1272 www.trauernichtsimmentals.com **Professional Sale Management:** Val & Lori Eberspacher 507-532-6694 Val's Cell 612-805-7405 Guest Consignors: te Line Simmental402-239-0843 Chris Neuman 402-520-2962 sales@ebersale.com • Sale offering at www.ebersale.com

NEWS MAKERS

Rousey SimAngus Featured

Rousey SimAngus, North Platte, Nebraska, was recently featured in the *Western Ag Reporter's* annual Herd Reference Summary. Featured operations are chosen by regional representatives, based on their commitment to the industry and community, and the quality of their program. The article can be viewed online at www.westernagreporter.com.

High Point Genetics Featured

High Point Genetics, and owner Brian Oswald, were recently featured by *Iowa Farmer Today*. The article focused on the selection criteria Oswald uses when choosing herd bulls. High Point Genetics runs Angus and SimAngus cattle near Osceola, Iowa. The article can be viewed online at: agupdate.com/iowafarmertoday.

In Memoriam...

LaVerne Moser, 93, who was among the earliest members



of the American Simmental Association, passed away August 10 in his home town of Lemmon, South Dakota. The holder of ASA membership number 2896, he began using Simmental genetics in 1969. A veteran of the US Army, he served during the Korean War. He is survived by Elaine, his wife of over 70 years, and six children: Wendy (Trent) Lebahn; Wade (Lynn); Harry (Lisa) a former ASA Board chairman; Perry (Diana); Jay (Holly); Hope (Mark) Stoller; along with 14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Phyllis Nichols, 77, a full-time owner/manager of the renowned



Nichols Farms, passed away September 23 at the family home in Iowa. Along with her husband, Dave, and her sister-in-law, Lillian, she paid the bills and taxes, issued the payroll, deposited the checks, handled insurance coverage and claims, and purchased cattle supplies. One of her greatest pleasures was interacting with the Nichols Farms crew, customers, and visitors. She is survived by her husband, Dave; her children, Fletcher and Jennifer; her brother, Lans Gibbs; and two sisters-in-law, Edy Hill and Lillian Nichols.

Lillian Rose Shafer, 88, of Detroit Lakes, MN, passed away



October 9. Born in Grafton, North Dakota, she was the oldest of eight children, and was the mother of ASA executive vice president Wade Shafer. She held a BS degree in biology from Valparaiso, an MS in nursing from the University of Illinois–Chicago, and a Registered Nursing degree from St. Luke's. She is survived by Gordon, her husband of more than 60 years; her son, Wade; daughters, Brenda, Dawn, Shannon, and Dixie; and 14 grandchildren.

SIMMONIAL CLASSIC SALE

Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021

Kist Livestock · Mandan, ND · 1 p.m.
Sale follows the ND Red Angus Select Sale, which begins at 11 a.m.

Selling 40 BRED HEIFERS and 20 OPEN HEIFERS also SEMEN & EMBRYO LOTS

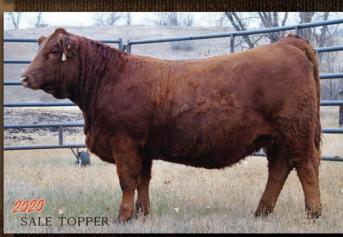
Offering selected from the heart of herds that host some of the top bull sales in the land!

Selling many open heifers that will be competitive in Junior and Regional Open Shows!

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GEORGIA

Dixie Hay Farm 730 Dixie Barwick Rd Dixie, GA 31629

Christa Perry 503 Greenfield Dr Statham, GA 30666

Juan Rosado 790 Bailey Waters Rd Dawsonville, GA 30534

ILLINOIS

Johnson Family Cattle 955 N 1300 East Rd Heyworth, IL 61745

Gruber Genetics 25567 County Hwy 14 Annawan, IL 61234

Johnson Cattle Co 2263 N 800 E Rd Danforth, IL 60930

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Asa Morris 2831 E Bacon Ridge Rd Marengo, IN 47140

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Bridget Holcomb 1631 Roseman Bridge Rd Winterset, IA 50273

Diamond H Livestock 2838 Rutledge Ave Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Twin Creeks Sim/Angus Farms 38002 380 Ave Bellevue, IA 52031

KANSAS

Wiley Livestock 1430 Rd 15 St Francis, KS 67756

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Ronnie Page 244 Grand Loop Dr Mt Washington, KY 40047

MARYLAND

Jason Wellington 77 Doctor Carr Rd North East, MD 21901

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Cholger Cattle Co 3061 N Arbutus Lake Rd Traverse City, MI 49696

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Alex & Samantha Bleck 20198 625th Ave Stewart, MN 55385

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XXI Farm Management 678 Southern Oaks Florence, MS 39073

MISSOURI

Brandon & Patrick Jochimsen 33103 State Hwy A Greentop, MO 63546

Kyle and Megan Eitel 2381 NW Kendal Rd Hamilton, MO 64644

Hellwege Farms LLC PO Box 27 Frohna, MO 63748

David Guerin 954 Guerin Ln Chadwick, MO 65629

MONTANA

Kyle Glenn 14111 Harpers Bridge Rd Missoula, MT 59808

NEBRASKA

Mark Sunderman 1973 CR 13 Lyons, NE 68038

OHIO

Jon David Berry 857 S Mutual Union Rd Cable, OH 43009

Mike Pfaff 4180 Millersburg Road Gambier, OH 43022

Joel William Hoar 14185 Butternut Rd Burton, OH 44021

Justin Williams 22567 Darby Pottersburg Rd Marysville, OH 43040

Montana Hulsmeyer PO Box 244 240 East Street Harrod, OH 45850

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130 George Bailey Ln Greeneville, TN 37745

UT Plateau Ag-Research Center 320 Experiment Station Rd Crossville, TN 38571

ZWT Ranch 1253 McClanahan Dr Crossville, TN 38571

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Gabrielle Barfield 125 Magnolia Dr Orange, TX 77632

JHS Cattle 3011 Evergreen Dr

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EMBER 4, 2021 RDAY E C

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

3:00 PM · Viewing of cattle begins

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

1:00 PM · Viewing of cattle begins

3:00 PM · Appetizers and cocktails

5:00 PM · Dinner

6:00 PM · SALE TIME!



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W W W . S C H A A K E F A R M S I N C . C O M

DNA Services (Contact ASA For Testing Kits)				
Genomic Tests: *GGP-100K \$50 GGP-uLD \$33 *Add-on tests available		Genetic Conditions Panel \$25 (Must run with GGP-100K) Arthogryposis Multiplex (AM) Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH)		
Stand Alone	Add-on ↓	Developmental Duplication (DD) Tibial Hemimelia (TH) Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca (PHA)		
**Parental Verification (PV)	Free \$9	Osteopetrosis (OS)		
Red Charlie	NA	Contractural Arachnodactyly (CA)		
Horned/Polled\$33	\$19	(Individual defect tests can be ordered for \$25.)		
PMel (Diluter)\$20 Oculocutaneous Hypopigmentation (OH) \$25 BVD PI\$5	Free	**Research Fee charged at \$1.00/min — Includes but is not limited to: DNA re-checks to more than 2 additional parents, multi-sire pastures, excess time spent to confirm parentage, mis-identified samples, and samples arriving at lab without proper ASA paperwork. ***Prices are subject to change		

DNA Collector Fees: Allflex TSU - \$20.00 (box of 10) • Allflex Applicator - \$40.00 • Blood Cards - \$1.00 ea. (processing fee) Hair Cards - \$5.00 ea. (processing fee) • Sample Pull Fee - \$2.00 ea.

THE Enrollment

Spring 2022 THE Enrollment — (dams calve January 1-June 30) — Early enrollment open October 15 through **December 15, 2021**. Late enrollment available until February 15, 2022.

Fall 2021 THE Enrollment — (dams calve July 1-December 31) — Early enrollment open April 15 through **June 15, 2021**. Late enrollment available until August 15, 2021.

	Option A (TR)	Option B (SR)	Option C	Option D (CM)
Early Enrollment	\$15.00	FREE	\$7.50	\$500/herd
*Late Enrollment	\$16.00	\$1.00	\$8.50	\$500/herd
*Late enrollment fee	es			

A re-enrollment fee of \$35.00 applies to any dam that is removed from inventory and re-enters the herd at a later date.

A member who has dropped out of THE and wishes to return, may do so for the next enrollment season. Re-enrollment fee is \$35 per animal (maximum of \$350) plus enrollment fees. Non-THE registration fees will apply to the calendar year when a member did not participate in THE.

American Simmental Association Fees				
First Time Membership Fee: Adult First Time Membership Fee*	Transfer Fees: First Transfer			
Registration Fees enrolled in THE Enrolled in Option A	Register Foundation Bull. \$25 Registration Fees not enrolled in THE: Non-THE <10 months . \$42 Non-THE 10 months <15 months . \$52 Non-THE 15 months . \$62			

WESTERN Choice

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4, 2021

BILLINGS LIVESTOCK COMMISSION • 1:00 PM (MT)

SIMMENTAL BANQUET

Annual Meeting and Banquet Friday night Open to all Members Semen and Fun Auction Join us at 6:00 PM

CATTLE JUDGING CONTEST

Youth Judging Contest Classes and Reasons Contest begins at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning your opportunity to procure some of the

most elite females
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100 Simmental and SimAngus™ Females Sell



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Sale sponsored by the Montana Simmental Association

Bulls Eye Breeders Sale

September 15, 2021 • Modesto, CA

No	Category	Average
62	SimAngus™ and Angus Bulls	\$3,750

Auctioneers: Rick Machado, CA; and Johnny Rogers, CA Sale Manager: Eberspacher Enterprises (EE) Inc., MN

Marketing Representatives: Val Eberspacher (EE); Matt Macfarlane, California Cattleman, CA; Jake Pickering, American Angus Association, CA; Logan Ipsen, Western Livestock Journal, ID; and Jason Judge, CA.

Representing ASA: Luke Bowman

High-Selling SimAngus Lots:

\$5,750 - "GRS Protégé H019," s. by TSN Protégé Z896, cons. by Gonsalves Ranch, sold to Guy Norcutt, Sloughhouse.

\$5,500 - "GRS Paydirt H024," s. by CCR Pay Dirt 2340C, cons. by Gonsalves Ranch, sold to Richards Ranch, Merced.

Comments: Consignors included: Gonsalves Ranch, Diamond Oak Cattle, Flood Brothers Cattle, and Double M Ranch.



Val and Lori Eberspacher spoke to the Modesto Junior College's Marketing Class prior to the sale.



Joe Gonsalves (center) grilled up some prime Gonsalves steaks.



Auctioneer Rick Machado (left) purchased several lots for customers.



Luke Bowman (ASA) attended the sale.

SHOW CIRCUIT

Register

West Texas Fair and Rodeo

Judges:

Dates: September 11-12, 2021 Location: Abilene Kolten Thigpen,

Sweetwater (Simmental); Dr. Brant Poe, Stephenville (Simbrah)

Junior Simmental Show

Grand Champion and Junior Champion

"FBFS Hard to Handle 126H," s. by ETR Blitz 208E, exh. by Everett Snoddy, Grandview.

Reserve Grand Champion and Reserve Junior Champion "SWC NFFS Wicked Hanna 825H," s. by JBSF Berwick 41F,

Senior Champion

"EZS Twisted Sister 018H, s. by W/C Relentless, exh. by Braelyn Pointer, Littlefield.

exh. by Wyatt DeBerry, Olton.

Reserve Senior Champion "Vanilla,"

s. by CAJS Blaze of Glory, exh. by Hartlee Battey, Floydada.

Junior Simbrah Show

Reserve Grand Champion and Calf Champion

"BLCO Scarlett Rose," s. by Smith RFI Black Sails, exh. by Lorelai Hill, Edinburg.

Reserve Calf Champion

"SWR Cupcake," s. by SWR Wide Track, exh. by Aniston Long, Early.

Junior Champion "Smith RFI Sugar Girl,"

s. by Smith Just Because, exh. by Ryleigh Whitaker, Ranger.

Reserve Junior Champion

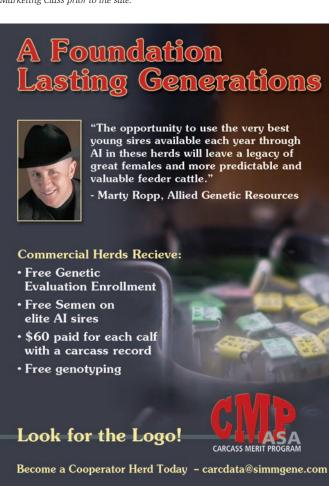
"Walters Red Magnolia," s. by Walters Red Impact, exh. by Jennifer Mask, Franklin.

Grand Champion and Senior Champion

"RMC Ms Destiny 266H," s. by RMC Bobby Brown 226D. exh. by Jennifer Mask, Franklin.

Reserve Senior Champion

"BLCO Dojo Sails," s. by Smith RFI Black Sails, exh. by Lorelai Hill, Edinburg.

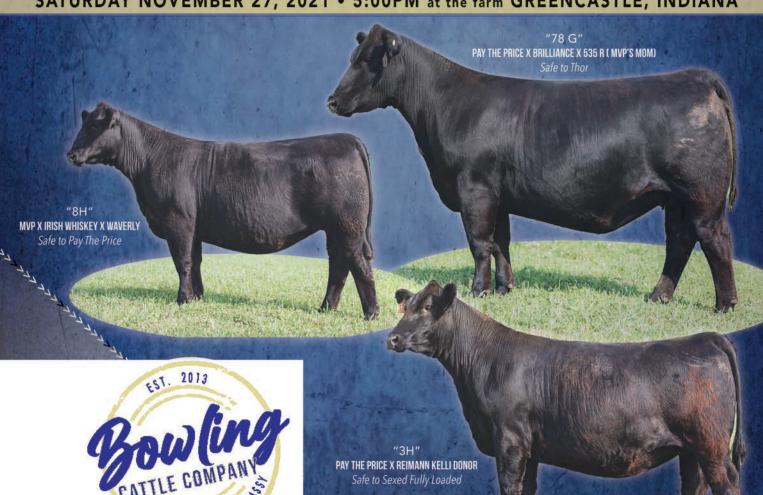


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DATE BOOK

NOVEMBER

- 1 Hanel's Black Simmentals' "The Female Sale" Courtland, KS
- 6 25th Annual Southern Showcase Sale Rome, GA
- 6 Cason's Pride and Joy Simmentals' Maternally Inspired Female Sale Russell, IA
- 6 Dakota Ladies Sale Worthing, SD
- 6 Irvine Ranch Annual Production Sale Manhattan, KS
- 7 Prospect Cattle Company's High Society Sale Hillsboro, OH
- 7 Triangle J Ranch's Female Sale Miller, NE (pg. 26)
- 13 Anderson Land and Livestock's Private Treaty Bull Sale Stanfield, OR
- 13 Deer Creek Farm's Annual Bull Sale and Open House Lowesville, VA
- 13 Gibbs Farms' 16th Annual Bull and Replacement Female Sale Ranburne, AL
- 15 Bichler Production Sale Linton, ND
- 15 Houck Rock Creek Ranch's Fall Private Treaty Sale Allen, KS
- 16 Elliott Livestock and Wild Rose Cattle Company's Bull and Bred Heifer Sale Clifford, ND (pg. 39)
- 19 Heartland Simmental's Performance with Class Sale Waverly, IA
- 20 Callaway Cattle Company's AffordaBULL Sale, Hogansville, GA
- 20 C&C Farms' Clear Vision Production Sale Winder, GA (pg. 5)
- 20 Driggers Simmental Farm 10th Annual Bull Sale Glennville, GA
- 20-23 LMC and Friends "Giving THANKS" Online Donation Sale VII www.lamuecacattle.com
 - 20 Next Step Cattle Co., 9th Annual "Boot Brand Genetics" Bull Sale Livingston, AL
 - **20** Stanley Martins Farms' Herd Reduction Sale Decorah, IA (pg. 7)
 - 20 Yardley Cattle Company's Bred Cow and Heifer Sale Beaver, UT
 - 21 48th Annual Minnesota Simmental Association Sale Cannon Falls, MN
 - 27 10th Annual Breeding for the Future Sale Rockfield, KY
 - 27 Chestnut Angus Female Sale Pipestone, MN
 - 27 Felt Farms' Foxy Ladies Sale West Point, NE
 - 27 Great Lakes Beef Connection Bred Heifer Sale Clare, MI
 - 27 Inaugural Queen of the Prairie Female Sale Veblen, SD
 - **27** The Event Sale Pleasant Dale, NE (pg. 67)
 - 27 Trennepohl Farms' Right By Design Sale Middletown, IN (pg. 81)

DECEMBER

- 3 52nd Annual Calhoun Performance Bull and Commercial Female Sale Calhoun, GA
- 4 Jewels of the Northland Sale Clara City, MN
- 4 Schaake Farms' Legends of the Flint Hills Westmoreland, KS (pq. 71)
- 4 T-Heart Ranch and L-Cross Ranch High-Altitude Female Sale LaGarita, CO
- 4 The Source Sale, Vo. VII Nashville, GA
- 4 Tom Brothers Ranch Private Treaty Bulls Sale (Opening Day) Campbellton, TX
- 4 Western Choice Simmental Sale Billings, MT (pg. 73)
- 8 Double Bar D and Friends "Sharing The Herd" Genetics Sale Grenfell, SK(pg. 19)
- 10 JS Midwest Made Elite Female Sale Prairie City, IA
- 11 Cowboy Logic Bull and Female Sale Talmo, GA
- 11 North Alabama Bull Evaluation Sale Cullman, AL
- 11 North Dakota Simmental Association Showcase/Classic Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 69)
- 11 Sandeen Genetics' Buildin' A Brand Sale Blakesburg, IA (pg. 11)
- 11 The Program Sale Wyoming, IL (pg. 47)
- 12 Trauernicht Simmental's Nebraska Platinum Standard Sale Beatrice, NE (pg. 68)
- 14 Parks Show Cattle's Complete Dispersal Sale Carthage, IL (pg. 35)
- 17 Buck Creek Ranch's Grand Event, Vol. II Yale, OK (pg. 9)
- 18 South Dakota Source Sale Mitchell, SD (pg. 10)
- 27-28 St. Nick's Eggstravaganza www.dponlinesales.com

JANUARY 2022

- 14 Diamond Bar S Bull Sale Great Falls, MT (pg. 23)
- 15 Sim Magic On Ice Denver, CO
- 17 National Western "The One-Volume XXVII" Sale Denver, CO
- 18 Powerline Genetics Arapahoe 1 Sale, Arapahoe, NE
- 28 Double J Farms' 48th Annual Bull Sale Garretson, SD (pg. 27)
- 28 Ellingson Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Dahlen, ND (pq. 26)
- 29 Cowtown Classic Simmental Sale Fort Worth, TX
- 29 J&C Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale West Point, NE (pg. 23)

- **30** Triangle J Ranch's Annual Production Sale Miller, NE (pq. 26)
- **31** APEX Cattle 'Heterosis Headquarters' Annual Bull and Bred Heifer Sale Dannebrog, NE

FEBRUARY

- 1 S/M Fleckvieh Cattle's Private Treaty Bull Sale Garretson, SD
- 2 Begger's Diamond V Big Sky Genetic Source Bull Sale Wibaux, MT (pq. 23)
- 2 Lazy C Diamond Ranch's Bull and Female Production Sale Kintyre, ND
- 3 Stavick Simmental's King of the Range Bull Sale, Veblen, SD (pq. 31)
- **4** Cow Camp Ranch's Spring Bull Sale Lost Springs, KS (pg. 22)
- 4 Kunkel Simmentals' Annual Bull and Bred Female Sale New Salem, ND
- 5 Klain Simmental Ranch's 40th Annual Production Sale Ruso, ND
- 5 Prickly Pear Simmentals "Made In Montana" Sale Helena, MT (pg. 23)
- 5 Springer Simmental's Value Based Genetics Sale Decorah, IA
- 7 42nd Annual Gateway "Breeding Value" Bull Sale Lewistown, MT
- 8 Edge of the West Production Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 46)
- 9 Jackpot Cattle Company's Annual Bull Sale Wessington, SD
- 9 River Creek Farms' 29th Annual Production Sale Manhattan, KS (pg. 23)
- 10 Houck Rock Creek Ranch Spring Private Treaty Sale Allen, KS
- 10 Lassle Ranch Simmentals' 29th Annual Bull Sale, —Glendive, MT
- 11 Bata Brothers/Bell Family Annual Joint Simmental Bull and Female Sale Rugby, ND
- 11 Hook Farms and Clear Springs Cattle Co. "Bred for Balance" Sale — Starbuck, MN
- 11 TNT Simmentals' 37th Annual "Carrying On" The Explosive Difference Sale — Lehr, ND
- 12 Kenner Simmentals' 26th Annual Production Sale Leeds, ND
- 12 Mississippi-Dixie National Sale Jackson, MS
- 12 Rydeen Farms 24th Annual "Vision" Sale Clearbrook, MN
- 14 Nelson Livestock Company's Annual Production Sale Wibaux, MT
- 15 Quandt Brothers Annual Sale Oakes, ND (pg. 27)
- 16 Hart Farms Beef Builder Bull Sale Frederick, SD
- 18 Dakota Xpress Annual Bull and Female Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 26)
- 18 Mader Ranches' 33rd Annual Bull Power Sale Carstairs, AB
- 18 R&R Cattle Company's Annual Production Sale Chamberlain, SD
- 18 Sandy Acres Simmental Bull Sale Creighton, NE (pg. 26)
- 19 7P Ranch's 28th Annual Spring Bull and Female Sale Tyler, TX
- 19 Dixson Farms, Inc., Private Treaty Sale and Open House Atwood, KS
- 19 Rhodes Angus Annual Sale Carlinville, IL
- 19 Schiefelbein Farms' Annual Bull and Female Sale Kimball, MN
- 19 Schnabel Ranch Simmentals' Annual Sale Aberdeen, SD (pg. 31)
- 20 Trauernicht's Bull Sale Wymore, NE
- 21 Bulls of the Big Sky Billings, MT (pg. 23)
- 23 C Diamond Simmentals' Bull and Female Sale Dawson, ND
- 24 Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale Springfield, IL
- 25 Beitelspacher Ranch's Annual Bull Sale, Mobridge, SD
- 25 Mid-America Simmental Sale Springfield, IL
- **26-3/5** Hofmann Simmental's Annual "Buy Your Way" Bull Sale Clay Center, KS
 - 28 Lehrman Family Simmentals' Annual Production Sale Mitchell, SD

MARCH

- Doll Simmental Ranch's 42nd Annual Production Sale Mandan, ND
- 1 Hill's Ranch Bull Sale Stanford, MT
- 2 Klein Ranch's "Heart of the Herd" Sale Atwood, KS
- 3 18th Annual Cattlemen's Kind Sale San Saba, TX
- 3 Keller Broken Heart Ranch Annual Production Sale Mandan, ND (pg. 27)
- **4** Eichacker Simmentals' Annual Bull Sale Salem, SD (pg. 27)
- 4 KSU's Annual Legacy Sale Manhattan, KS
- 5 Powerline Genetics PAP-Tested Bull Sale Castle Dale, UT
- 5 Trinity Farms' Generations of Excellence Sale Ellensburg, WA (pg. 31)
- 6 Gold Bullion Group's Annual Bull Sale Wamego, KS
- 7 Hanel's Black Simmentals' Black and White Bull Sale Courtland, KS
- 7 Rincker Simmentals' Sweet 16 Bull Sale www.sconlinesales.com
- 11 Yardley Cattle Company's Bull Sale Beaver, UT
- 12 Carcass Performance Partners Bull and Female Sale Lucedale, MS
- 12 Dikeman and Huninghake Premium Genetics Simmental and Angus Bull Sale Wamego, KS
- 12 Northwest Select Simmental Sale Ross, ND
- 13 22nd Annual Gonsior Simmentals' "In The Heartland" Sale Fullerton, NE
- 15 Powerline Genetics Arapahoe 2 Sale Arapahoe, NE
- 15 Schrader Ranch SimAngus™ and Charolais Bid Off Sale Wells KS
- 16 26th Annual Mid-Kansas Angus and Simmental Breeders Sale LaCrosse, KS
- **18** 3C Christensen Ranch and NLC Simmental Ranch 51st Annual Production Sale Wessington, SD (pq. 27)
- 18 Black Summit's Break Out Bull Sale Powell, WY
- 18 Sunflower Genetics' Annual Production Sale Maple Hill, KS (pg. 23)
- 19 Altenburg Super Baldy Ranch's 30th Anniversary Annual Bull and Heifer Sale — Fort Collins, CO
- 19 Dickinson Simmental and Angus Ranch 51st Annual Production Sale Gorham, KS (pg. 22)
- 19 Lechleiter Simmentals' 34th Annual Bull Sale Loma, CO
- 19 Red Hill Farms' "More Than a Bull XVII", Bull and Female Sale Lafayette, TN
- 19 High-Bred Simmentals and Marple Simmentals Cattlemen's Choice Sale – Fredonia, KS
- 19 Eastern Spring Classic Sale Columbus, OH
- 21 All Terrain Bull Sale Walsh, CO (pg. 22)
- 23 Diamond H Ranch's Annual Production Sale LaCrosse, KS (pg. 22)
- 25 Vertical Edge Genetics' Annual Production Sale Bancroft, ID
- **26** T Heart Ranch High Altitude Bull Sale La Garita, CO (pg. 22)
- **26** The Clear Choice Bull Sale Milan, IN (pg. 22)

APRIL

- 2 19th Annual "Pick of the Pen" Bull Sale Blacksburg, VA
- 2 Belles and Bulls of the Bluegrass Lexington, KY
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W/C Night Watch 84E

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DMCC Black Velvet 5E
By Pays To Believe
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By Remington Secret Weapon 185

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THSF Lover Boy B33
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EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 155 \$TI: 91



JC King of the Road 468H
By KBHR High Road E283
EPD: CE: 16 \$API: 181 \$TI: 98



Ruby NFF Up The Ante 9171G
By Ruby's Currency 7134E
EPD: CE: 12 \$API: 120 \$TI: 71



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EPD: CE: 9 \$API: 98 \$TI: 72



W/C Double Down 5014E
By W/C Executive Order 8543B
EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 114 \$TI: 70



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GSC GCCO Dew North 102C By HTP/SVF Duracell T52 EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 119 \$TI: 82



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EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 112 \$TI: 68



Reckoning 711F

By W/C Relentless 32C

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WLE Black Mamba G203

By WLE Copacetic E02

EPD: CE: 13 \$API: 136 \$TI: 81



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MR CCF The Duke G42

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EPD: CE: 15 \$API: 118 \$TI: 71



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EPD: CE: 17 \$API: 134 \$TI: 68



RRF Trading Up E777
By Pays to Believe
EPD: CE: 14 \$API: 136 \$TI: 76



JSUL Something About Mary 8421
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FPD: CF: 11 SAPI: 113 STI: 72



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